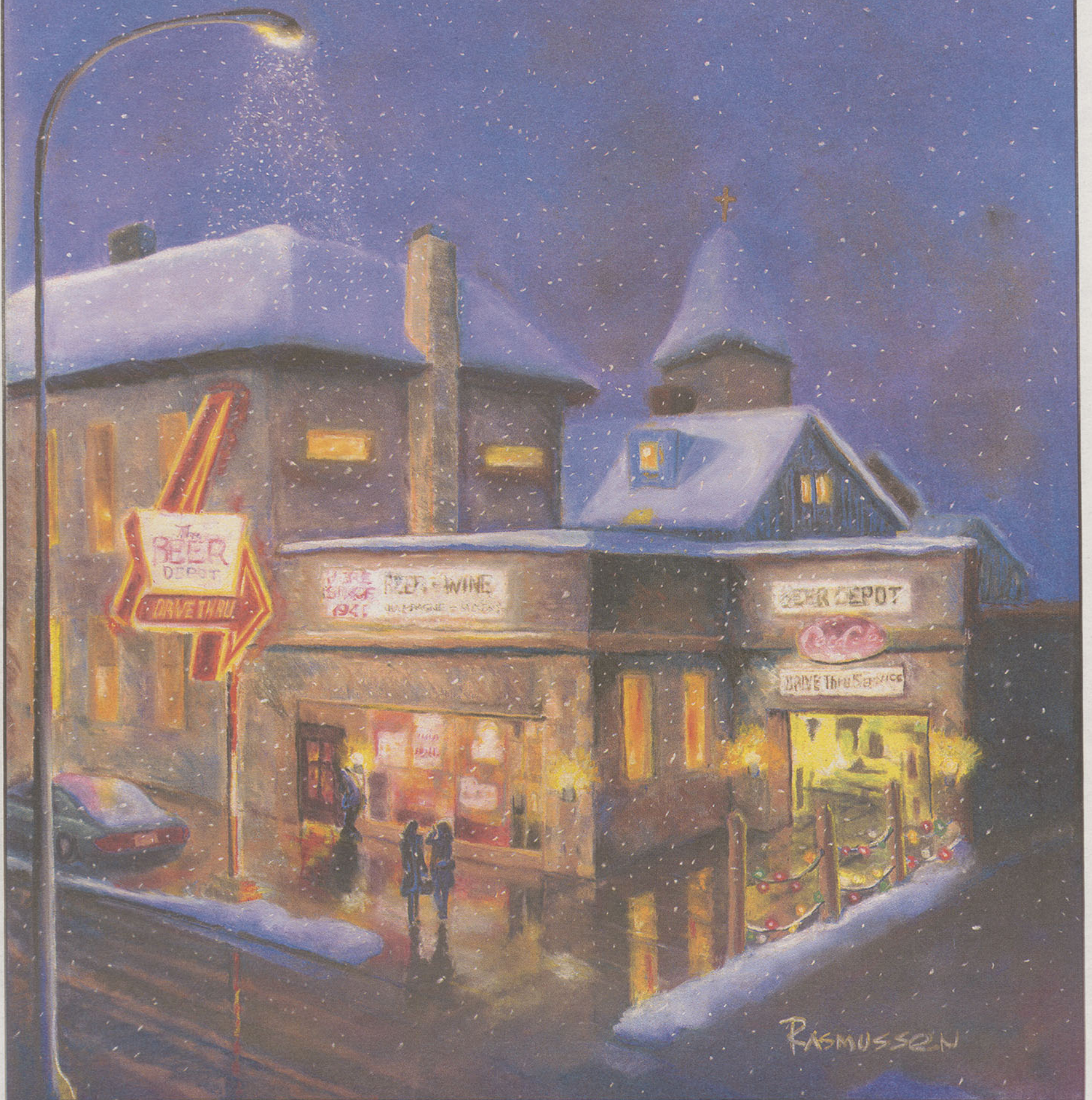


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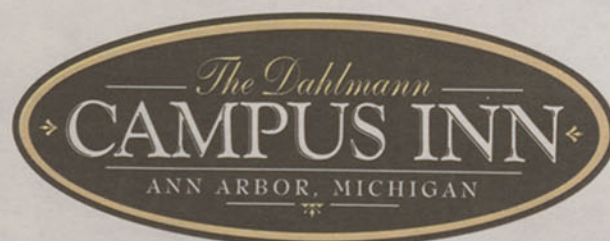
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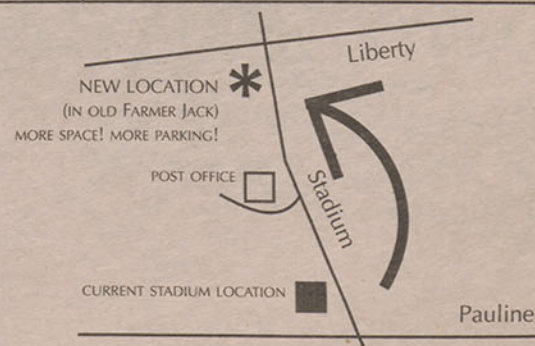
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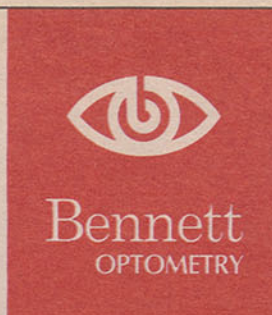
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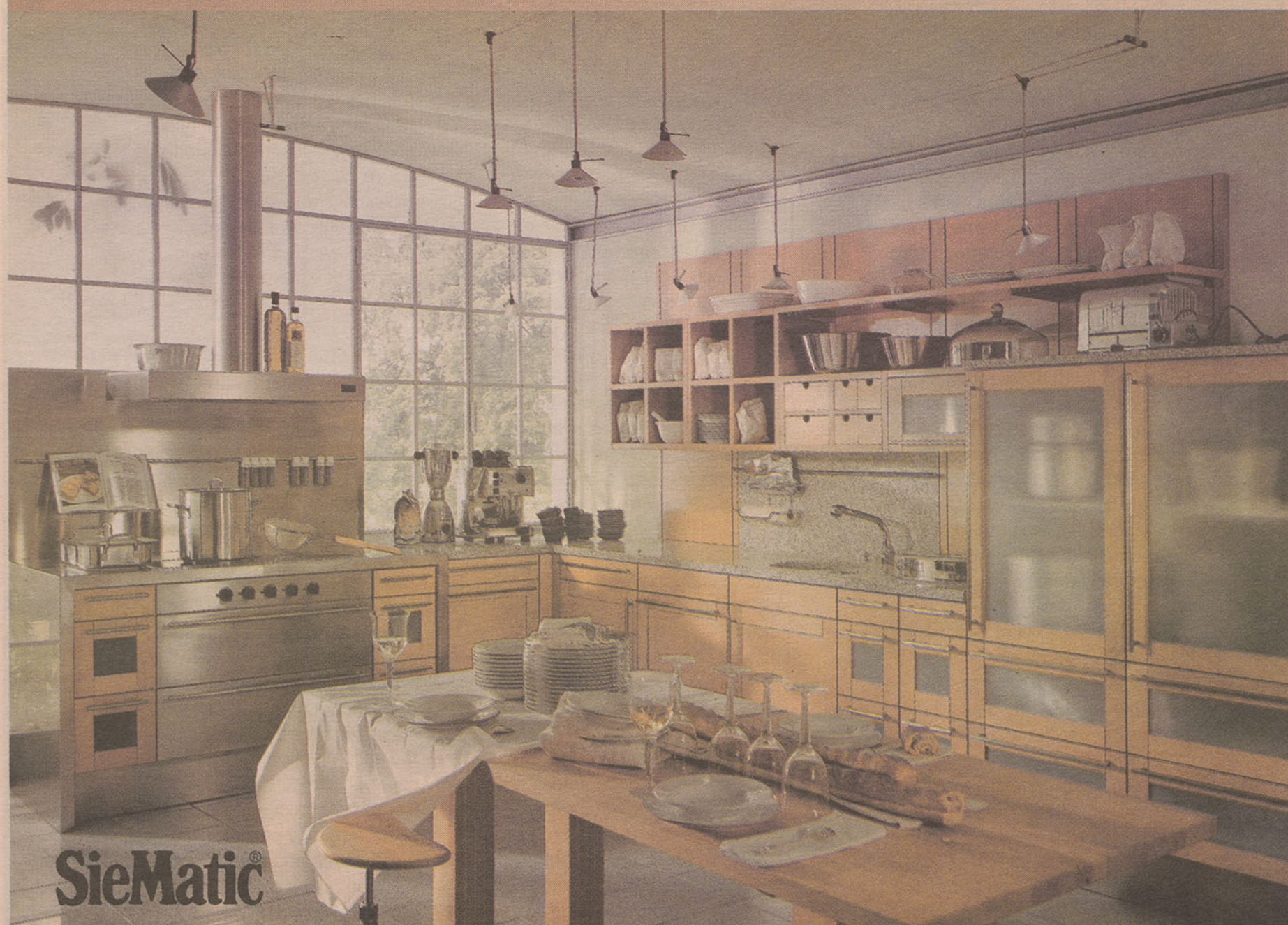


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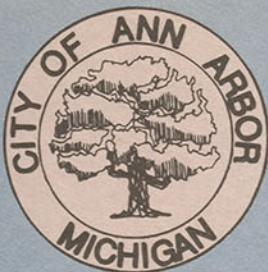


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City of Ann Arbor

STREETS

Where there is light snow or ice on road surfaces, the City's Public Services Area clears over 94 miles of high volume streets, bridges, intersections with stop signs or traffic signals, and streets with curves. De-icing materials are applied to provide better traction for vehicles to help prevent accidents at high-risk locations. The street clearing process takes about five hours and may be repeated as needed. After the major and high-risk streets are cleared, City crews de-ice the local streets in the City, which requires ten to twelve hours.

When a snowfall of four inches or more occurs, street snow plowing begins and the City Administrator may declare that a "snow emergency" is in effect. Plowing is done on all public streets and City-owned property; however, all schools and privately owned areas provide for their own de-icing and plowing. Citizens are advised to remove cars from curbside parking to allow for effective street plowing.

When a "snow emergency" is in effect, illegally parked vehicles may be ticketed and towed.

The City snow desk is staffed when a snow emergency is in effect. The snow desk tracks the location of plows throughout the City and provides information to the public about the plowing progress. You may reach the snow desk at 994-2359.

*** On days having odd-numbered dates, vehicles are prohibited from parking on the side of the street having even-numbered street addresses—**in order to allow plows to clear the even-numbered side of the street. Parking is permitted on the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses in legal spaces.

*** On days having even-numbered dates, vehicles are prohibited from parking on the street having odd-numbered street addresses—**in order to allow plows to clear the odd-numbered side of the street. Parking is permitted on the side of the street with even-numbered addresses in legal spaces.

SIDEWALKS

When there is a snow event in Ann Arbor, the City depends on its citizens to be helpful, responsible, and aware of the need to remove all snow and ice from the public sidewalks including walks and ramps leading to a cross walk.

During the winter months, many Ann Arbor residents (including children walking to school and the physically challenged) need to be able to safely use the public sidewalks. This means that all snow and ice should be removed from the entire constructed width enabling people of all ages and physical conditions to have access to clean pedestrian walkways. City council

has passed an ordinance regarding snow removal (violations can result in fines up to \$500), but reminds you that sidewalk snow removal is simply a combination of courtesy and caring toward all those who need to use the public sidewalks.

The City reminds owners or occupants of non-residentially zoned properties that all snow and ice which has accumulated on the adjacent public sidewalk prior to 6am must be removed by noon. Immediately after the accumulation of ice on such a sidewalk it must be treated with sand, salt or other substance to prevent it from being slippery. Within 24 hours after the end of each accumulation of snow greater than 1 inch, the owner or occupant of every residentially zoned property must remove the accumulation from the adjacent public sidewalk. Remember, accumulation can occur from any source including precipitation and drifting, and the term "sidewalk" includes adjacent walks and ramps leading to crosswalks, typically at corners. Ice must be treated as mentioned above and removed within 24 hours after accumulation. Last but certainly not least, please exercise caution and care when shoveling, especially during extreme cold.

Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Winter Season from the City of Ann Arbor

Please save for reference throughout the snow months.

Revised August 2003

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Janet L. Johnson, Photographer

Ann Arbor Observer

February 2004

vol. 28 • no. 6

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The cafe as aphrodisiac.



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Daily events in Ann Arbor during February, including reviews of violinist Hilary Hahn (at right), Dutch novelist Karel Glaustra Van Loon, singer-songwriter Ann Doyle, kids musician Mister Laurence, the U-M Gamelan Ensemble, Trivia Night at

the Arena, the exhibit *India Viewed from Afar: The Fantastical Engravings of Bernard Picart* at the UMMA, and blues & country band Mike Boyd and the Genesee Ramblers.

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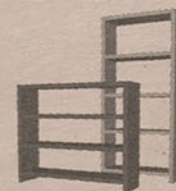
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Kindergarten Extended Day Option – EDO An All-Day Program that Combines Kindergarten with Half-a-Day of Tuition-Based Child Care

The Extended Day Option (EDO) is designed to minimize mid-day kindergarten transitions for parents and children while ensuring continuity of care and education.

The Morning EDO program offers children all the exciting educational experiences of kindergarten with a certified Ann Arbor Public Schools kindergarten teacher. Afternoon EDO provides hands-on enrichment activities and extended learning opportunities, based on the best childcare research, under the guidance of the same teacher along with a certified teaching assistant. By registering in the EDO program parents have access to all of the district's childcare programs for events and days with no school.

Interested? Please let us know by February 19, 2004

Enroll by February 19, 2004, and the fee is \$388/month.

After February 19, 2004, the fee is \$400/month.

Availability

EDO programs are currently available at King and Eberwhite Elementary Schools. However, the AAPS is hoping to expand the EDO program to other interested neighborhood schools. Let us know if you're interested in enrolling your kindergarten-age child for the 2004-05 school year in an Extended Day Option Program by contacting your neighborhood school. Or register on-line via the A2 Public Schools web site at www.aaps.k12.mi.us.*

Kindergarten Round Up

For all parents and guardians of incoming 2004/2005 Kindergartners. Tour the school. Meet the principal, staff and Kindergarten teachers. Learn about the K curriculum. Receive important registration packet.

Abbot	Monica Harrold	4/21/04	6:00 pm
Allen	Joan Fitzgibbon	4/1/04	6:30 pm
Angell	Robin Jackson	5/3/04	6:00 pm
Ann Arbor Open	Naomi Zikmund-Fisher	5/5/04	6:30 pm
Bach	Shelley Bruder	3/25/04	6:30 pm
Bryant	Luther Corbitt	4/2/04	1:30 pm
Burns Park	Kathy Morhous	3/31/04	7:00 pm
Carpenter	Arlene Barnes	3/31/04	5:30 pm
Dicken	Mary Anne Jaeger	3/31/04	1:00 pm
Eberwhite	Debi Wagner	4/1/04	7:00 pm
Haisley	Tamber Woodworth	4/1/04	7:00 pm
King	Margaret Durant	4/1/04	6:00 pm
Lakewood	Rick O'Neill	4/1/04	7:00 pm
Lawton	Ruth Williams	3/30/04	7:00 pm
Logan	Linda Warrington	3/30/04	6:30 pm
Mitchell	Kathy Scarnecchia	4/1/04	7:00 pm
Northside	Kevin Karr	3/30/04	7:00 pm
Pittsfield	Susan Lewis	4/1/04	6:30 pm
Thurston	Patricia Manley	4/28/04	6:30 pm
Wines	Patricia Johnston	3/29/04	7:00 pm



Safety Town

Safety Town is a summer program teaching personal and pedestrian safety for children entering kindergarten. It is jointly offered by the Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Education and Recreation and the Ann Arbor Police Department. Program details are distributed at kindergarten round-up and are available now at reced.aaps.k12.mi.us or by calling 994-2234.



*First priority will be given to those students who reside in the school's attendance area, followed by students who live in one of the other elementary schools within the middle school cluster. At "space available" schools, EDO students will have the option of remaining in attendance throughout their K-5 instructional experience.

"Gridlocked and land-locked":

That's how planning commission chairman Steve Thorp summarized South Pond Village, a planned complex of 315 condominium units behind Arborland. At the commission's December meeting, all present voted against the South Pond area plan. Palpable at the meeting was concern over traffic congestion along Washtenaw Avenue between Huron Parkway and US-23. Paesano's owner Michael Roddy noted that Washtenaw was crowded when he bought the restaurant in 1984. He was told then that it would soon be broadened to seven lanes. "We're still waiting," he said. Roddy blamed the congestion for driving away several other business owners, including Arbor Dodge. There's been talk of routing South Pond's traffic out to Huron Parkway, but neighbors oppose the new road—and even if it were built, it wouldn't help much. Will South Pond be enough to force Washtenaw back onto the city's radar screen? Jean Carlberg, city council's representative on the planning commission, did urge the planners to look at options for improving flow on Washtenaw—though, she added, "hopefully not widening it to seven lanes."

American in Paris: "Are the French treating you well this visit?" a British TV reporter asked. The question surprised an Ann Arborite who'd stopped to snap a picture of the first Starbucks in Paris. In his five previous visits to the City of Lights, no one had ever asked how he and the Parisians were getting along.

But at a candy store the next day, when the shopkeeper determined he was American, she inquired, "Are we being nice to you?" Later, he stopped in a bar for a drink to warm up from the December weather. "Everyone treating you all right?" the bartender wanted to know. In every case, the traveler says, the concern seemed genuine—and each conversation led to a dialogue about the Middle East, President Bush, and globalization. Younger Parisians in particular watch *Friends* and *Sex and the City*, and seem to embrace the opening of Starbucks—but not the war in Iraq. The Ann Arborite says he was well treated everywhere but avoided Starbucks. "Coffee in a paper cup," he sniffs. "Visiting Paris will never be the same."

tit4tat.net: The name makes it sound like a porn site, but the subhead reveals a very different target audience: "No silicone, no saline, no sir!" It's ex-Ann Arborite Mary Kinnunen's one-woman web campaign to discourage breast-implant surgery. A U-M grad, Kinnunen

worked for *Automobile Magazine* in Ann Arbor, then founded a city magazine in Marquette. She was serving as mayor of Rhinelander, Wisconsin, when her teenage daughter mentioned she was thinking of looking into breast implants. Kinnunen researched the evidence against them, starting with the risk of side effects and the enormous up-front and recurring costs. But the spookiest thing, she says, was discovering that women often walk into plastic surgeons' offices carrying pictures from men's magazines. Appalled that women with perfectly normal breasts were feeling "deformed" by comparison, she launched tit4tat. In addition to lobbying against implants, the site sells tank tops with the self-assertive message "Nice tits," and a T-shirt that supports "natural endowment for women." "We'll need to sell sixty-seven million tanks" to match the size of the breast-implant business, Kinnunen laughs. "So we have our work cut out for us."

What does it cost? \$50—"Singing Valentine" serenade (includes two songs, rose, and photo), from the Huron Valley Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, 769-1463 . . . \$350—thirty-five-to-forty-letter message, imprinted on a banner with a heart on it and towed across the Ann Arbor sky for fifteen minutes, by Toledo's Air America Aerial Ads . . . \$224—heart-shaped locket, fourteen-karat gold, from Schlanderer & Sons on Main . . . \$300,000—average cost of a heart transplant, according to transplants.org . . . \$3—approximate cost of a two-pound beef heart, by special order at Knight's Market . . . \$11.99—Heart's *Greatest Hits* CD, for Ann and Nancy Wilson fans, from Borders . . . \$20—thirteen-inch heart-shaped cookie with personalized "I Love You" message iced on top, from Mrs. Field's Original Cookies . . . \$16—ruffled, heart-shaped pancake mold, from Williams-Sonoma . . . 3¢—one candy heart stamped "I'm Yours," from Kilwin's.

Kerrytown chime: Its tower is dwarfed by Burton and Lurie, and technically it's not even a carillon, since it has fewer than twenty-three bells. But the chime at Kerry-

town does have a democratic feature neither of the campus carillons can claim: everyone is welcome to play it. Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, either Norm Roller, an eighty-nine-year-old former music teacher, or Heather O'Neal, whose father, Joe, owns the shopping center, stands ready to assist anyone who'd like to try. Since 1998, they've helped three-year-olds who had to stand on tiptoe to pull the numbered wooden levers, and octogenarians who stooped to push them down. The walking musicians have played "America the Beautiful," "Ode to Joy," "You Are My Sunshine," and hundreds of other familiar and obscure melodies.

One day, before Christmas, two Community High students came by and dared each other into playing—first "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer," then "Frosty the Snowman." While there were some halting passages and even a couple of clinkers, a small audience gathered, clapping and cheering at the end of each song. The players received their gold "I Played the Bells at Kerrytown" stickers and went away beaming.

Picture of health: Every three days or so, a volunteer from the U-M Hospitals' Gifts of Art program visits each of the hospitals' 920 rooms and invites patients to replace the art on their walls. The framed posters on the volunteer's cart aren't exactly cutting edge—when the hospital asked people to imagine themselves as patients and rate sample artworks, the top five choices were all landscapes. But patients seem to like the pictures, and they appreciate the chance to control at least a small part of their hospital stay. A separate cart serves C. S. Mott Children's Hospital. A look though the log of the Mott cart reveals that the most-requested posters include a cougar, galloping horses, two kids on a beach, and a butterfly. Few youngsters ask for Maurice Sendak's surreal *In the Night Kitchen*. After years of trundling from room to room, much of the collection shows signs of wear; program assistant Kathy Talley welcomes donations of large, good-quality framed posters at 936-ARTS.

Seal of approval:

When people ask UMS president Ken Fischer how the acoustics turned out at Hill Auditorium, he answers, "Don't worry—Richard LeSueur says they are fine." LeSueur isn't an acoustician—he's the music specialist at the Ann Arbor District Library—but he is a fanatically dedicated concertgoer. He estimates that over the past forty years he's heard 800 performances at Hill alone. So when the legendary concert hall was rededicated on January 8, LeSueur couldn't wait to climb to his regular upper-balcony seat (first row, center section, on the aisle) to hear how a familiar voice sounded in the remodeled space. Tenor Sean Panikkar, whose performance of Ernesto de Curtis's "Torna a Surriento" opened the program, is a graduate student at the U-M music school; LeSueur had heard the thrilling young singer in recital many times. "I knew what to expect," he says, adding that Panikkar "sounded the way I thought he should sound in Hill." Next up was U-M senior Jeremy Kittel, a Celtic fiddler. LeSueur could clearly hear the sound of Kittel's feet tapping in time. Now LeSueur can't wait to hear a pianist in the new Hill—pianists are famous for humming along as they play. "Will we hear their humming better?" he wonders.

Art of the book: The stone walls of Kerrytown's 1899 Godfrey

Building are lined with antique bookmaking machines: a full-size Vandercook printing press; a Rosback perforator; a Maier shear, with its heavy cast-iron base and scimitar-size blade. But Hollander's School of Book & Paper Arts is a working classroom, not a museum. Delicate papers, from coral to indigo, hang like happy laundry from the massive red oak beams. And the six women and one man gathered around East Lansing mixed-media artist Susan Hensel are hustling to complete a four-day artists' collaboration in which they've written, printed, and bound their own small book of poetry. The theme is transformation, and each poem is matched by a visual image—a leather-and-pewter bracelet, a handful of a child's golden hair, a journal excerpt on turning forty, a twig of curly willow. It's all been produced, by hand, in two busy weekends. Did they ever think it would never come together? "Yeah, last weekend," one replies, and everyone laughs. Another pipes up, "Yeah, yesterday!" Bigger laugh. Another student lingers afterward, telling Hensel, "I don't feel as if I'm ready. . . ." "You're ready to fly," Hensel reassures her. "God, you're already flying."

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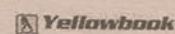
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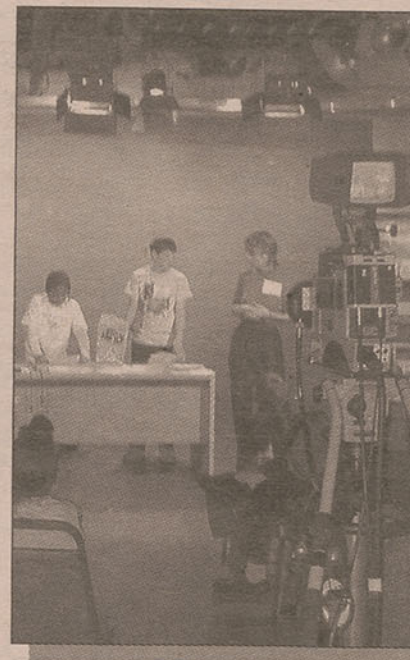
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INSIDE

ann arbor

SCHOOLS

Pat Montgomery's Triumph

A longtime critic of conventional education reigns over a thriving homeschooling empire.

When Pat Montgomery first got into the homeschooling business in 1979, she had just two clients. Thirty years and a major lawsuit later, she now advocates for 6,000 at-home students as far away as Thailand and the United Arab Emirates. About seventy are in Ann Arbor.

The former nun and schoolteacher also is director of Clonlara, a private school on Jewett with fifty students. Montgomery

schooling families with curriculum questions, evaluate how a child is doing, or just help troubleshoot.

When she started, Montgomery says, homeschoolers were divided between "the hippies and the religious people." But in recent years, "the complexion of homeschooling has changed a lot." Now many homeschooled kids are ones who were having troubles fitting into traditional classrooms—gifted or autistic children, for example. She says some students are even encouraged by principals and teachers to go off on their own: "We call them the 'push-outs.'"

Nationwide, the number of homeschoolers more than doubled between 1994 and 1999, to 790,000. Locally, Clonlara and two Christian homeschooling centers, the Explorers and Home School Connector, report a total of more than 200 students (although some children take part in activities at more than one center).

School Connector recalls that in the early years homeschoolers were "afraid to take their kids out during the day" because they worried about hostile reactions. That's completely changed, she says. Still, homeschooling has its critics, including the National Education Association. EMU educa-

Montgomery says some students are even encouraged by principals and teachers to go off on their own: "We call them the 'push-outs.'"

tion professor Alane Starko says most educators share her view that situations calling for homeschooling are "few and far between." Among Starko's arguments: parents can't become teachers overnight, homeschoolers' curricula are uneven, and kids learn more about diversity in public schools. Montgomery counters that the best teachers she knows had to "unlearn" the damage inflicted by education schools, that she's seen parents put together marvelous curricula, and that self-segregation makes public schools a lot less diverse in practice than they appear on paper.

Montgomery grew up in a large Irish Catholic family near Pittsburgh, entered a convent, left at twenty-five, and later married and raised two children. She started Clonlara shortly after her first child, Chandra, was born because she didn't want her daughter in a traditional school system. Chandra's own two daughters are now students at Clonlara; her brother Chai teaches there.

The school struggled financially for years, sometimes selling cookies at the Farmers' Market to pay teachers' salaries. Careful business practices and the nationwide growth in homeschooling helped reverse its fortunes. But Montgomery, now sixty-nine, still won't accept a salary—a decision she first made in the years when the school was too broke to pay her.

Montgomery says she is "transitioning" to a less active role in Clonlara and homeschooling so that she can spend more time lecturing—she gets speaking invitations from all over the world—and writing. She'll also keep working on one country that continues to resist the teach-them-yourself tide: Germany, which has a 700-year-old law banning homeschooling. Montgomery's currently consulting with frustrated German would-be homeschoolers.



Clonlara's Pat Montgomery helped win court battles that legalized homeschooling. She started helping two homeschoolers; today she works with 6,000.

emphasizes that Clonlara is nothing like traditional "education factories," which she disdains for "molding and shaping, stuffing information into kids' heads."

Montgomery has long since turned the running of the school over to dedicated subordinates so that she can concentrate on homeschooling. For \$495 per year, Montgomery or her staff will provide curriculum guidelines and access to a vast library, and will handle any paperwork. Perhaps most important, Clonlara provides a "contact" teacher who can help home-

Probably the biggest reason for the growth is that laws that formerly punished homeschoolers for truancy have been largely eliminated in the last two decades. Montgomery herself played a key role in those battles. In 1985 Clonlara and two homeschooling families challenged a Michigan Department of Education policy that required homeschoolers to hire certified teachers. In 1993, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled in favor of the homeschoolers.

Michelle Kazanjian of the Home

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Calls & Letters

Housing policy

To the Observer:

I'm writing to express disappointment in your January Inside Ann Arbor article on the city's housing policy board (HPB) and the Stone School project. The article, relying on mistaken facts, misrepresents the important and effective role played by the HPB in the city's review process for low-income housing developments.

I was particularly disappointed that your reporter failed to contact me, as I would have been able to clarify the following issues before the story was published:

The article's statement [attributed to the developer] that "the HPB imposed requirements that boosted the cost of the project by half a million dollars" — in fact, the developer's initial proposal was rejected by staff, not by HPB, because it violated HUD regulations; the article's statement that "the HPB doesn't have a single proposal from a nonprofit to use the [city's housing] money" pending — in fact, there are two such projects pending; the claim by [Community Housing Alternatives'] Rhonda McGill that "the HPB delayed her project" is not accurate — the HPB voted to fund the project at the first meeting where it was presented; ironically, despite the article's sense of a breach between the HPB and the Stone School Townhomes developers, Ms. McGill returned to the HPB in January to request additional subsidy for the project and was awarded the increased amount; and while the article sounds the alarm about the possible loss of federal HOME funds, it fails to mention that since 1992 the city has received \$8.4 million in HOME funds and has never needed to return a cent to HUD.

I hope the Observer will maintain its high reporting standards in any future articles on important city policy issues like affordable housing.

Kim Groome
Cochair, HPB

Groome is correct that the threatened cost increase stemmed from HUD regulations, not the HPB, and that the board currently has two nonprofit projects pending. The Observer regrets the errors.

Groome also is correct that the HPB approved the Stone School Townhomes at its first opportunity. However, Rhonda McGill of CHA disputes Groome's claim that the HPB did nothing to delay her project. After that initial approval, minutes show that over a three-month period, McGill appeared repeatedly before both the HPB and its project review subcommittee while the board debated how many units to subsidize and

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how to structure those units' resale. McGill cites both the funding and resale delays when she characterizes her experience before the HPB and its subcommittee as unpleasant, more hostile than supportive, and different from her experience in Ypsilanti.

McGill also points out that the maximum income for Stone School buyers is higher than we'd given: the cap for most units is the area's average median income—\$77,700 for a family of four.

Det and Tom

"People forget about his music," Diane MacLean said in a phone call. January's story on the Del Rio said a lot about the late Bob Detwiler's invention of the Detburger but little about his first love, jazz. In the 1960s, Detwiler had strong followings in both Ann Arbor and San Francisco. "There were people who came here to play with Det, to learn from him," MacLean recalled. Not that he'd mind being remembered for the Detburger, she added. While "the music was what he really cared about," she recalled, "he always cared about hamburgers, too."

We misspelled the name of Det's old friend Tom Kazmierzak and described a handicap he no longer has. Since his knee replacements, Kazmierzak pointed out, he can (and does) get up the steps to the Old Town. (For an update on the Del Rio's closing, see p. 41.)

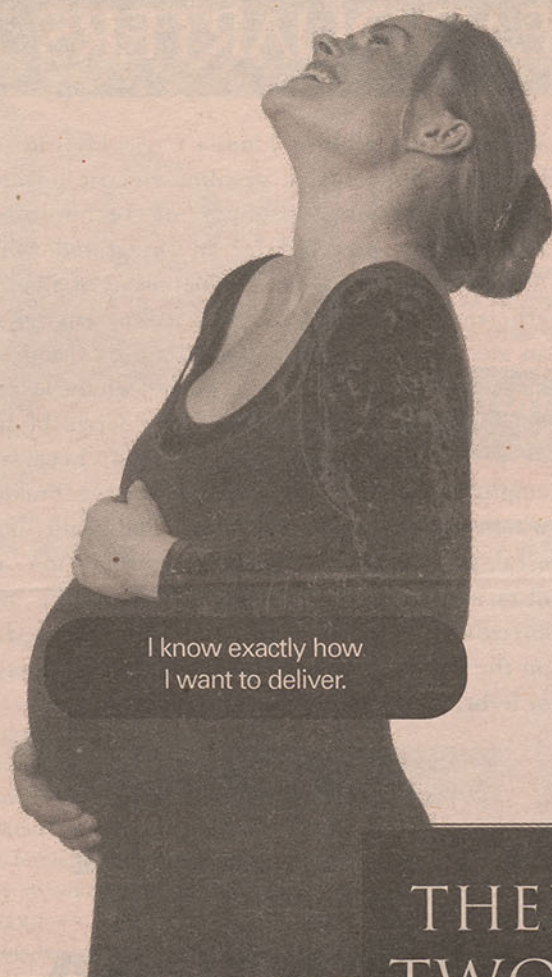
Marketplace corrections

Fredda Clishman called to say she loved our story on the sale of the Food & Drug Mart (Marketplace Changes, January). But Clishman, who's lived next door to the market for fifty years, spotted a critical one-digit error in the phone number. The correct number is 662-4565.

"You stated that with the closing of Michigan Saddler in Dixboro the only remaining resource for saddles and other riding equipment and accessories in Washtenaw County is Dexter Mill," Becky Valley e-mailed in response to another Marketplace Changes item. "I believe that Lakeside Saddlery of Whitmore Lake on Barker Road is inside the Washtenaw County line. In addition, the Yellow Pages also shows a Sore Saddle Holster & Saddle Company in Dexter."

Holly Hobbs

A photo caption in our January calendar mistakenly credited Peter Sparling as one of the choreographers for EMU's January 16 *FastForward* dance concert. As the calendar itself correctly noted, the choreographer in question was not Sparling but his company's assistant director, Holly Hobbs.



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INSIDE ANN ARBOR *continued*

RUINS

Room at the Inn

Why has a west-side motel stood vacant for fifteen years?

Ann Arbor is a glossy town; so many old buildings have been painstakingly and beautifully restored that it's hard to find a shabby spot. Unless, that is, you drive out Jackson Road to the old Michigan Inn and Wall Street restaurant. Businesses are multiplying in the neighborhood, yet no one has slept in the motel or eaten at the "wise dining investment" since the 1980s. The four-acre property has a distinctly seedy feel, the motel's windows—the ones that haven't been boarded up—are grimy, and junk is collecting in the lobby.

"I'm running my business, the business isn't running me," Dale Newman says proudly; his Five Point Five Corp. has owned the Michigan Inn since 1991. Yet while he was "running his business," he was difficult to reach. Whenever the Observer tried to call him, he was out of town or out of the house. Messages were not returned.

John Rasmussen, a board member of Religious Action for Affordable Housing (RAAH), visited the site repeatedly before Newman bought it. As recently as ten years ago, Rasmussen believes, the motel could still have been remodeled and turned into office space and apartments. Before the current SAFE House was built in the mid-1990s, the Domestic Violence Project tried to buy it as a shelter. Later, the homeless shelter also contacted Five Point Five Corp.

Commercial bidders were no more successful. Out-of-town hotel owners tried to purchase 2800 Jackson Road. A car dealer considered the location, and Omnipoint tried to build a cell-phone tower on the premises. But nothing happened.

Although the Michigan Inn isn't getting any younger or better, empty buildings always attract those in need of a roof over their head and no money to pay for it. In 2001 a man entered the motel through an air-conditioning vent and lived in a room with TV and a mattress for three days before being discovered and arrested.

Thomas Ewing, president of Ewing LLC and also a member of RAAH, says his company has loaned money to Five Point Five Corp. to help pay property taxes and avoid foreclosure. The property serves as security of promissory notes in the amount of half a million made by Two Twelve Fourth Corp., another of Newman's enterprises. Yet Ewing doubts that any bidder will meet Newman's expectations for the Michigan Inn, which seem to jump after every offer.

With the building having stood vacant for so long, Ewing estimates that renovating it would cost \$1.5 million to \$2 mil-

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Vacant since 1989, the Michigan Inn is valued by the city at \$1.4 million. Owner Dale Newman thinks that's low—his asking price is \$4-\$5 million.

lion. Other sources claim that it would be next to impossible to restore it as a viable business. "Once a motel is empty," one real estate broker says, "it's worthless."

When finally encountered at a party, Newman was affable but remained elusive. His answers and comments were of the kind you might expect when asking a colleague for the amount printed on his paycheck. He said he'd like to rent the Wall Street restaurant. He bought the property on a whim. (The purchase price isn't listed in county records—only a nominal amount of \$1.) The deal took nine months to close. Then he pointed to the camera around his neck and said, "Let me go take some pictures. Good-bye."

The city assessed the value of the Michigan Inn at \$700,000 in 2003, putting its estimated true cash value at \$1.4 million. The asking price, according to Newman, is \$4 million to \$5 million. As to the state of the building, he didn't respond to questions. "I guess it's not really for sale at the moment," Newman concluded.

David Hamilton, CEO of Swisher Commercial, says that the buildings have been empty for so long that they have "become invisible." He estimates that the land alone might go for \$10 to \$15 per square foot, or in excess of \$2 million. In the meantime, people are using the parking lot for a read during lunch break, or while they're waiting for their laundry to dry next door.

Newman bought kitchen equipment from the old Ann Arbor Inn in an effort to make the restaurant more viable. Yet renting the restaurant is likely to prove futile so long as the motel behind it is in shambles. The small frontage area and the difficult access for eastbound traffic on Jackson Road might be further deterrents.

Some people still expect Newman to one day renovate and run the Michigan Inn himself. But don't hold your breath. And if you're interested in renting the restaurant, don't bother calling the number displayed outside. It has been disconnected.

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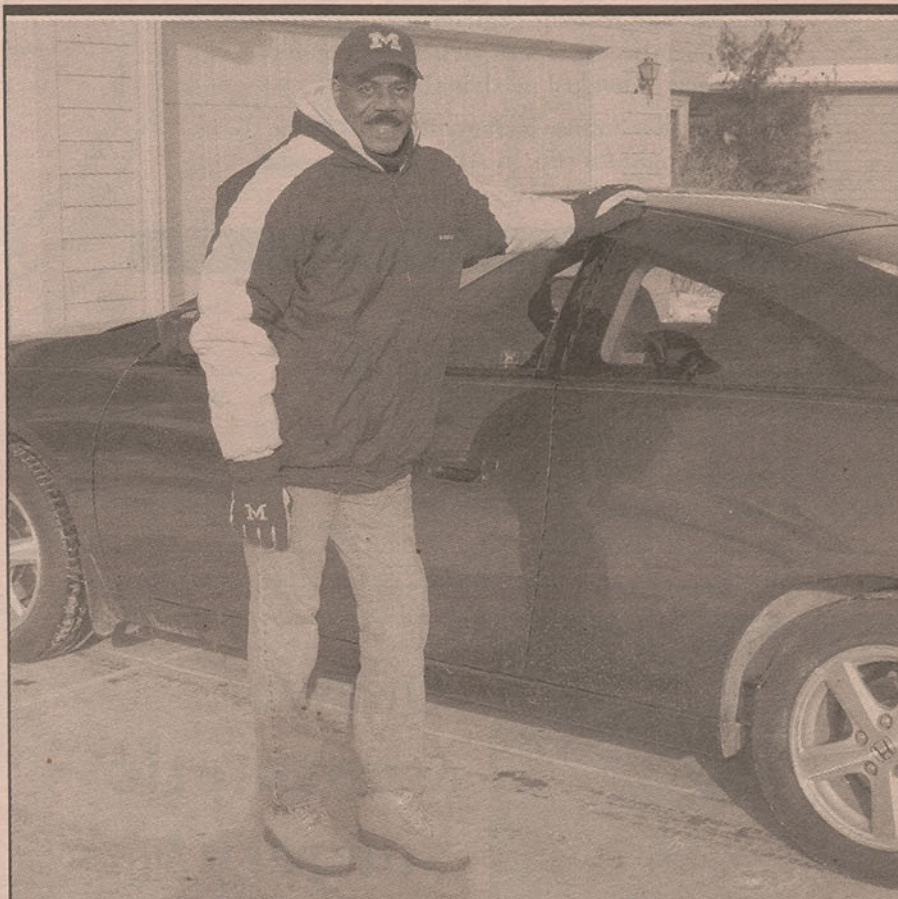


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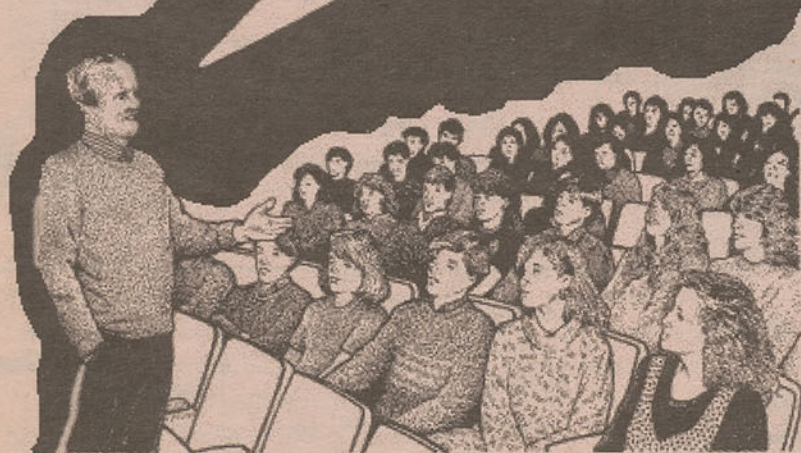
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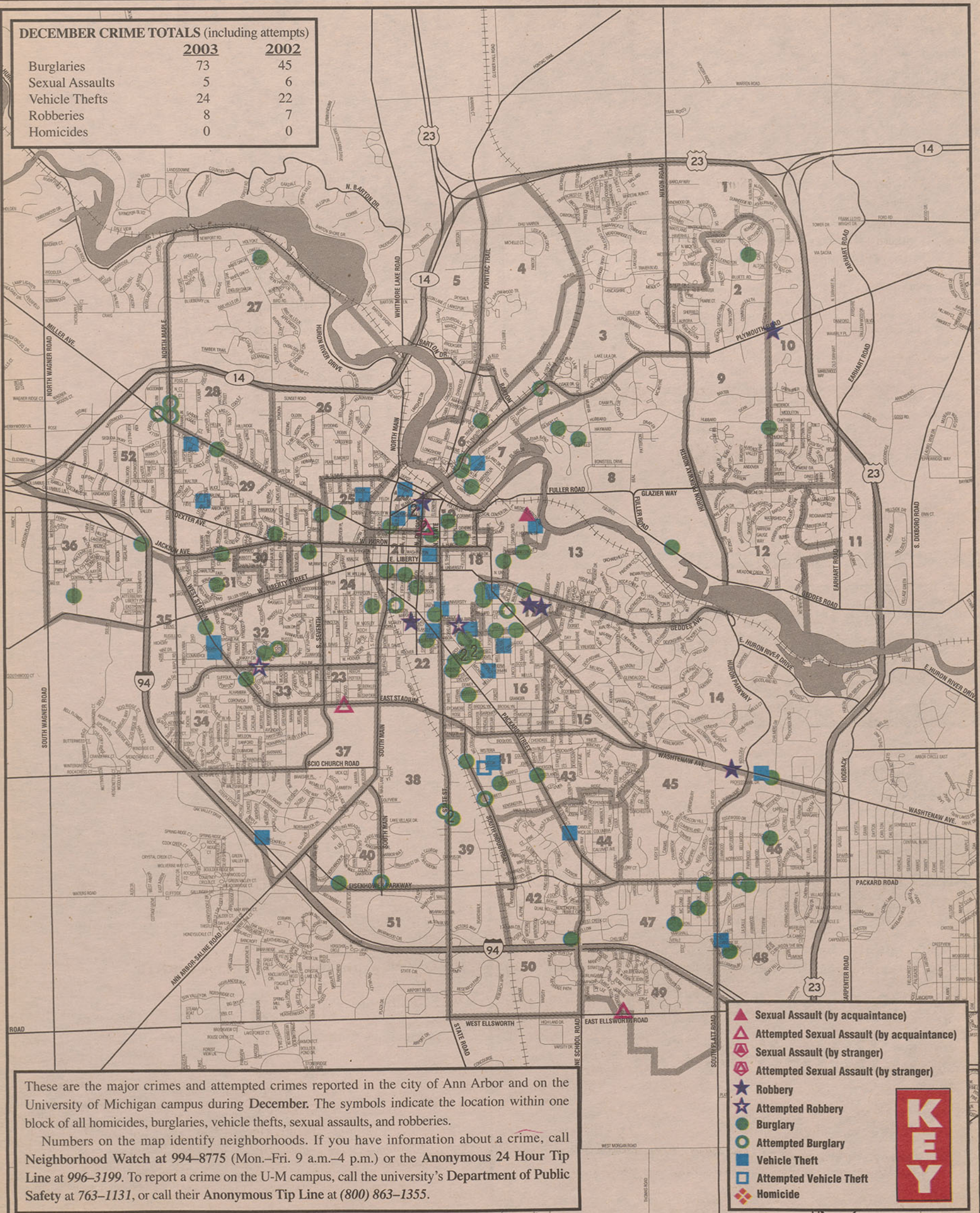
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	2003	2002
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Sexual Assaults	5	6
Vehicle Thefts	24	22
Robberies	8	7
Homicides	0	0



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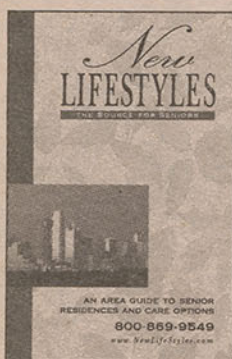
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ANN ARBORITES



MARGARET WHITE TEALL

Jean Carlberg

Council's ultimate insider wields her power quietly

Back in 1964, Jean Carlberg joined a sit-in demanding that city council approve a fair housing ordinance. The protesters were arrested when they refused to leave the council chamber, and Carlberg spent a night in jail. Released the next morning, she reported to work as a secretary for the Ann Arbor Community Center. Although the center served the city's black population, it avoided controversy. To Carlberg's shock, a meeting was held to decide whether she should be fired. Allowed to stay, she kept the job until she landed a position as a high school teacher—still an idealist, but more seasoned.

Today, Carlberg probably knows the council chamber better than anyone else in the city. At sixty-seven, she is one of the elder stateswomen of local Democratic politics—which in the past decade has come to mean city politics. In her fifth term representing the Third Ward, she's the longest-serving member of council and provides the body's institutional memory.

A soft-spoken woman who peers at you mildly behind her glasses, Carlberg nonetheless carries considerable clout. She's especially forceful as council's representative on the city planning commission. "She may not be the loudest voice in the room," observes developer and former council member David Kwan, "but she's the most important."

Recently Kwan appeared before the planning commission with a proposal to build twenty-two new townhouses off Traver Road and convert nine existing units into condos. Carlberg, as usual, was the most tenacious questioner among the commissioners, grilling Kwan with questions like "What is the water table on the

site?" and pressing him on whether he'd make some of the units "affordable"—selling them below \$150,000. Kwan was vague in his reply, but Carlberg told him "I'll take you at your word" that he would discuss the subject with city officials.

Although most local politicians pay lip service to affordable housing, few are willing to sacrifice other priorities to get it built. Carlberg is. At the meeting to discuss Kwan's project, planning commission member and prominent Democrat Eppie Potts announced she would vote against it, making a passionate plea to preserve the site's natural features—even though she acknowledged that it "is not high-grade, wonderful woods." Carlberg responded that the woods areas and wetlands in question were nothing special, and that preserving them was less important than building new homes.

When it comes to affordable housing, Carlberg acknowledges, "I have twisted developers' arms." Developers agree, but they say that Carlberg is straightforward and approachable. "She's very professional," says outspoken developer Ed Shaffran, "unlike me sometimes."

Although Carlberg ended up supporting Kwan's project, it fell short of the six votes needed to get thumbs up from the commission, because several members were absent. Nonetheless, her backing may prove important, since Kwan plans to present the project to council anyway.

Carlberg figures that between city council and the planning commission, she puts in twenty to thirty hours a week for the city. Some who've observed her think it's even more. Her appetite for work and understated style may be the

Carlberg is especially forceful as council's representative on the city planning commission.

"She may not be the loudest voice in the room," observes developer and former council member David Kwan, "but she's the most important."

only remaining traces of her conservative, upper-middle-class upbringing in East Grand Rapids.

As a math and education major at Swarthmore College, which had a strong Quaker influence, she became sympathetic to conscientious objectors. Later, at the U-M, she got involved with Bunyan Bryant, at the time a young social worker. Family friends warned Carlberg she wouldn't be welcome in their houses if she kept dating Bryant, who's African American, and her own mother struggled with the situation. (Carlberg's mother ultimately not only accepted the relationship but became close to Bryant.)

After earning a master's from the U-M in history, Carlberg taught for thirty years in New Boston, commuting from Ann Arbor, where Bryant is now a U-M professor of natural resources. In 1993, more than thirty years after they met, Bryant and Carlberg finally wed. A little self-conscious about the delay, Carlberg says that as they became older, they became more concerned about the legal complications facing unmarried couples.

Of all the projects she's worked on in her decade on council, Carlberg calls Ashley Mews on Main Street the "most interesting and complicated." In overall importance, though, nothing tops the unglamorous issue of revamping Ann Arbor's century-old storm-water system. Carlberg recalls she caught her breath years ago when she first heard a planning department official say that fixing the system would cost \$100 million. After years of delay, that project is finally under way.

Lately Carlberg's been making noises that this term might be her last. When pressed, she says she's undecided. She notes that she's been on council so long that some things have come full circle. Soon after she was first elected in November 1994, she took part in early meetings held to discuss the possibility of a new homeless shelter. No one was happier than Carlberg when the new shelter finally opened this fall.

"The community said to do something about it," she says. "The important thing is that we're moving."

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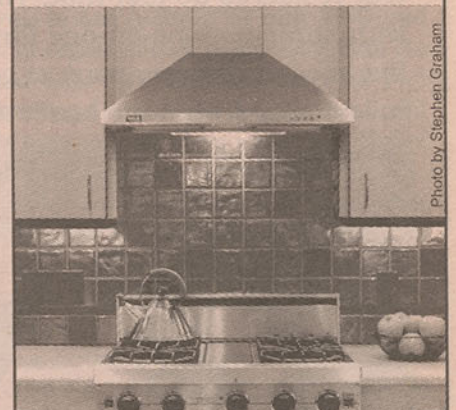


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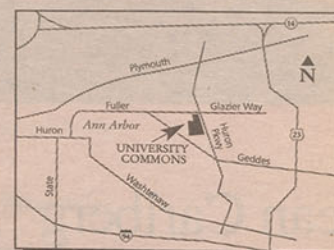
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The rutted dirt path that leads from the U-M Rowing Club dock off North Main Street to the picnic area of Bandemer Park cuts through a thicket of forlorn bushes along the Huron River. No one in the city suspected this narrow, overgrown trail had a constituency—until the parks department proposed to turn it into a paved bike route, and all hell broke loose.

At a hastily convened public meeting last May, dozens of environmental activists and bicyclists told the parks advisory commission that any change to the path would disturb a precious natural habitat. Although the city's own natural-areas specialist rated the invasive-choked riverbank as lacking in botanical quality, the commission agreed with the protesters. Its members voted unanimously to move the bike route far inland, next to the railroad track.

The public meeting was called at the behest of Doug Cowherd, cochair of the local Sierra Club—and when Cowherd speaks, City Hall listens. Though he's never run for office and doesn't serve on any city body, Cowherd is the kingpin of the most powerful political organization in recent Ann Arbor history—an alliance so successful that some call it the Green Machine.

They beat the developers on the greenbelt.

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THE GREEN MACHINE

by Michael Betzold

Five years ago, Cowherd and others encouraged a little-known Realtor named John Hieftje to run for city council. Now an enormously popular two-term mayor, Hieftje is the public face of the Green Machine. Offstage, the driving force is Cowherd, a self-employed business and financial consultant and tireless antigovernment gadfly. He and Hieftje make an odd couple, but a powerful team.

Under Hieftje, the Green Machine has quietly put an antidevelopment stamp on city government. Now it's reaching beyond the city limits. Last fall the alliance led the successful fight for a tax to preserve open space in nearby townships.

Hieftje was the persuasive voice of the greenbelt campaign, but Cowherd provided the muscle—volunteers, experience, money, and, above all, an eagerness to play hardball against developer opposition. With their fingers on the pulse of the Ann Arbor electorate, he and Hieftje transformed the development debate. But now, at the peak of its success, their alliance faces increasing strains.

Even during the greenbelt campaign, there were signs of friction. Tensions are likely to grow as the city confronts the next big questions: deciding what land to preserve outside the city and how much growth to permit inside it. The future face of Ann Arbor may depend on the answers.



Neighbors Bob Johnson, Doug Cowherd, and Bill Hanson came together to battle a development on North Main. As Mayor Hieftje's kitchen cabinet, they're now pushing "neighborhood empowerment" throughout the city.

Hardball player

Doug Cowherd, the scourge of local developers, was born in Midland in 1957. As a child, he sometimes tagged along when his father, a developer and real estate broker, made housing development deals in northern Michigan.

In the 1960s the family moved to Connecticut. Doug dropped out of high school to pursue his dream of playing jazz trombone in New York City. After busking tables and

getting few jazz gigs, Cowherd moved to northern California. There he worked on logging crews and started his own construction company.

Tree cutting is not the usual path to tree hugging, but Cowherd was never typical. A long-haired, ponytailed Republican entrepreneur, he started a commune and launched another business making furniture out of redwoods he cut down.

While living out of his van or in communes or in houses he was building, Cowherd earned a degree in psychology at Sonoma State University. Some weekends he worked with emotionally disturbed children.

Cowherd moved to Ann Arbor in the early 1980s and earned an M.A. in organizational psychology from the U-M. He then moved to New York and started his own management consulting firm that two decades later is still going strong. His high-powered client roster has included public utilities, General Electric, and General Motors.

By the late 1980s Cowherd was back in Ann Arbor running his business and pursuing a growing interest in environmental activism. Volunteering on recycling trucks, he met Mike Garfield, now the Ecology Center's director.

Cowherd soon became chair of the Sierra Club's Huron Valley Group. When he took over, he says, it had a budget deficit and a declining membership of 1,500. He started

leading the club in battles against development. On his watch, the local Sierra Club became "not just a place to sit around and complain," Cowherd says. "We realized we could also change the place we live." Today, he says, the group has about 3,500 members in Washtenaw, Lenawee, and Monroe counties, 2,500 of them in Ann Arbor.

In 1990 Cowherd joined Garfield to help pass a \$28 million environmental bond millage. Soon after, Cowherd started another business, as a financial advisor. But he remained politically active, working on the Gelman Science cleanup campaign and supporting Fifth Ward council representative David Stead. Then, in 1998, a broad coalition including the Sierra Club launched a ballot initiative to purchase development rights to farmland throughout Washtenaw County.

Cowherd says the PDR campaign lost because leaders didn't follow his advice. "I didn't think our grassroots activities had a

chance if we sent out brochures that featured pictures of ducks floating on ponds," he says. "I thought we should tell the public that those who opposed us were sprawl developers who stood to profit."

Cowherd says he was "outvoted" on strategy, so he took to staffing phone lines alongside other volunteers. The PDR millage passed in Ann Arbor but was crushed by an overwhelming No vote out-county.

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THE GREEN MACHINE

Friends of the Bluffs

Although the PDR campaign failed at the polls, it succeeded in adding more volunteers to Cowherd's growing network. And the infant Green Machine gained important new leaders when it fought a proposed condo project on the bluff overlooking North Main.

The site was virtually in the backyard

that by opposing the condos, Cowherd was "using the good name of the Sierra Club to advocate principles that the Sierra Club doesn't believe in."

Cowherd says Pope's presence proved the fight was consistent with Sierra Club principles. He describes the bluffs as "one of the best natural areas in Ann Arbor" and adds, "People will appreciate in the future that we saved that land . . . instead of building more condos in a town with loads of condos. . . . I'm proud we saved such a good parcel of land from such a bad development."

In 1999 Cowherd conceived and spearheaded a campaign to renew the city's parks acquisition millage. Volunteers gathered 7,000 signatures, and the millage

passed easily. After John Hieftje was elected mayor in 2000, the city used \$1.5 million of those funds to buy the bluffs property.

In 2001 a smaller piece of land nearby, Sunset Ridge, also was targeted for development. But the planning commission—which now included Bill Hanson—tabled the proposal, and the developer walked away. The city recently paid \$410,000 to buy the 7.6-acre parcel bordering M-14 for a park. "The neighbors were well organized," notes Dave Borneman, coordinator of the city's natural areas preservation program.



COURTESY DOUG COWHERD

In California in the 1980s, future Sierra Club leader Doug Cowherd was a tree cutter, not a tree hugger. Now he's Ann Arbor's most powerful—and controversial—environmentalist.

of Bill Hanson, now head of the Washtenaw Land Trust, and Bob Johnson, now a city councilman. Mike Garfield lived nearby, and Cowherd now does too. Along with activist John Satarino, they formed Friends of the Bluffs to fight the development.

Whether their efforts were farsighted environmentalism or classic not-in-my-backyard-ism continues to evoke fierce debate. For his part, Hanson admits that "Bob and I were the NIMBYs" learning the ropes from Cowherd and Garfield. Hieftje, a longtime friend of Hanson, was also involved peripherally.

The development met city standards, and the master plan called for the area to be multifamily residential. Even the parks department was happy—there were few native species on the site, and the developers were offering to set aside five of the eighteen acres as a park. But Friends of the Bluffs outorganized and outfought the developers.

Cowherd brought in the national president of the Sierra Club, Carl Pope, to oppose the project. Pope's speech caused a stir among some local Sierra Club members, because in theory the national organization supports suitable urban infill development. A few people even quit the club in protest. Phil D'Anieri, chairman of the city's parks advisory commission, charges

In 1999 the Green Machine plunged into the electoral arena. Hanson recalls several people, including Cowherd, sitting on a back porch that summer and urging Hieftje to run for city council. Hieftje ran and won—and the next year he ran for mayor. Backed by the Green Machine, he swept every ward in the city, and did so again in 2002.

Hieftje was the first Ann Arbor mayoral candidate ever to win the Sierra Club's endorsement. Together, he and Cowherd—Mister Inside and Mister Outside—have reshaped the local political landscape.

Leveling the playing field

After Hieftje's election, Cowherd, Hanson, and Bob Johnson became influential members of the mayor's kitchen cabinet. The group got to work fulfilling Hieftje's campaign promise of "standing up for nature and neighborhoods."

Both the planning and parks commissions were transformed to take a tougher stance against development. The changes attracted little public notice until last summer, when longtime city council member and planning commissioner Jean Carlberg (see Ann Arborites, p. 19) raised concerns about three appointments.

"My main concern is that we were losing people with expertise and gaining people with no expertise," Carlberg says now.

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The three planning commissioners Hieftje declined to reappoint last June—Christopher Graham, Kirsten Gibbs, and Scott Wade—all had both professional and environmental credentials. But Cowherd charges the trio had “structural conflicts of interest” because “they all work for developers.” That relationship, he says, “causes them to pull punches” when evaluating projects of people or companies they might work with in the future.

Hanson says the commissioners who replaced the trio—and two others who joined late in 2003—have strong credentials of their own, and none of them works in the development industry. Hieftje minimizes the value of technical expertise on the panel. “We have planning professionals working for the city,” he says. “We don’t need them on the planning commission. We need people who will look at the bigger picture—residents who speak for the neighborhoods.”

Wade believes that he and the others were not reappointed because they weren’t sufficiently tough on development. On the planning commission, Wade supported two projects that the Green Machine opposed—Sunset Ridge and a condo project near Pauline and Maple. Neighbors of the latter project rallied to save “Dickens Woods,” and the developer eventually walked away after planners tabled the proposal. The parks department then outbid the library to buy the property.

The parks department’s Borneman doesn’t think much of the botanical quality of Sunset Ridge and is even less impressed with Dickens Woods. But Cowherd predicts

The Green Machine remade key city panels to be tougher on developers. Previous planning commissioners, Cowherd says, had “structural conflicts of interest” that led them to “pull punches.”

that “over time, [Dickens Woods] will turn into a great nature area.” And Hieftje says, “I was convinced of the need for it to remain undeveloped.”

Wade, the former planning commissioner, disagrees. The real reason projects like Sunset Ridge and Dickens Woods were rejected, he believes, is that “neighbors didn’t want more neighbors.”

Hanson calls that “neighborhood empowerment.” He says the commission needs more citizen activists to “level the playing field,” which he says has been tilted in the developers’ favor.

According to Hanson, he and Cowherd have been doing much of the recruiting of new planning commissioners. Hieftje, however, denies that Cowherd has had a major role. “Doug has not had much influence on planning,” the mayor says, and he

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ticks off a list of new appointees who he says came through other routes, including longtime community activist Ethel Potts. Hieftje says Potts was recommended by council member Bob Johnson.

But Cowherd says he recruited Potts and another 2003 appointee, James D'Amour. Potts declines to name the person who enlisted her. "It's very political," she says. "It's a political program being pushed. I'm a willing participant." Asked whether Cowherd recruited her, she replies, "That's a good guess."

Developers often complain that the city is becoming increasingly hostile to housing projects. Hanson disagrees. "It's the rare development project, even today, that isn't approved," he says. But Hanson adds that the work of "leveling the playing field" is just beginning.

"The most powerful political figure in Ann Arbor"

The parks advisory commission also got a makeover under Hieftje. The commission's chair, Phil D'Anieri, says he owes his appointment to Cowherd—and that the Sierra Club leader made his marching orders clear. "Doug is the only one I've ever had a policy discussion with where he's said, 'Here's where things need to go,'" says D'Anieri. He also says Cowherd told him, "Any appointment to a major city commission, I determine who it is."

Hieftje denies that, and Cowherd calls D'Anieri's statement "ridiculous." While he concedes that he "recruited and recommended" D'Anieri, Cowherd insists he's just one of "one hundred people who recruit and recommend candidates to city commissions."

"I'm not denying that I work a lot of hours to get things done in the areas I care about, which includes parks and planning," Cowherd continues. "But everything I do, I do with others."

Working with others is a big part of what makes Cowherd so effective—but D'Anieri says there's no question who's the alpha male of the group. "Doug is always the best-informed person in any discussion," he says. D'Anieri calls Cowherd "the most powerful political figure in Ann Arbor."

D'Anieri was reappointed to the commission last year—but that was before, in his own words, he went "off the reservation" by declining to support the greenbelt. (Calling it ill conceived, he worries

that it will raise housing prices and encourage "leapfrog sprawl" farther from the city.) D'Anieri says Cowherd picks and chooses his battles, but "his operation is comfortable sticking noses into the minutiae of city decisions that they care about." And when Cowherd wants something, he doesn't hesitate to throw his weight around.

Cowherd's tough tactics win fights, but they leave many people uncomfortable—even some who support his campaigns.

In 2000 Cowherd, Garfield, and other environmental leaders approached the Home Builders Association of Washtenaw County to propose uniting behind a county natural areas preservation millage. The meeting was tense. "They were screaming at me because of my alleged satanic ways, saying I was opposed to all development, which is absolutely untrue," recalls Cowherd. Things got even tenser when Cowherd threatened to launch a rerun of the 1998 millage if the builders' group didn't play ball on the more benign proposal to protect woods and wetlands. It was a bluff—the environmentalists had already determined they weren't ready to take on the builders again over prime development land. But the builders agreed to support the natural-areas bond, which sailed through without opposition.

In 2002 Cowherd made another threat—this one directed at Hieftje. He wanted the mayor to change the language in a ballot proposal for renewing a dedicated parks millage. If he didn't, Cowherd vowed to defeat the proposal and come back the next year with his own ballot issue.

Hieftje negotiated enough changes to win Cowherd's support. The mayor lost



During the greenbelt campaign, mayor John Hieftje promised to support more downtown housing in exchange for preserving farmland. But Cowherd rejects any linkage.

face—and Cowherd cemented his reputation as a man to be feared.

Winning the greenbelt

No one says the greenbelt was solely Cowherd's idea. Members of Hieftje's inner circle note that discussions had been going on ever since the defeat of the 1998 PDR proposal. But Cowherd was the key player in turning that talk into action. He convened meetings to develop the plan, and he helped draft the proposal's language.

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parkland was due to expire in mid-2004. The Green Machine's inspiration was to lengthen the term of the millage to thirty years—and to extend its reach beyond the city limits.

The early meetings on the greenbelt proposal included Garfield and sometimes Hieftje, Cowherd says. But Garfield says he wasn't "in on the ground floor" and credits the idea primarily to Cowherd, Bob Johnson, and Bill Hanson. Both Garfield and Hieftje say they didn't see the final proposal until early summer. The mayor says that he took a week or

Hieftje bristles at any suggestion that Cowherd is the power behind the throne. "I'm not beholden to the Sierra Club," he says. "I've been a member since 1984, so I believe in what they stand for. But it's not because I owe somebody a favor or worry about losing their support."

two to mull it over and then jumped on board enthusiastically.

Other key environmental and political leaders were clued in only days before the August press conference announcing the proposal. Some, including members of the Ann Arbor school board, weren't told at all. When the press conference was held, the greenbelt's boundaries still hadn't been determined, so "we had the wrong map behind us," Cowherd admits. Yet just ten days later, city council voted unanimously to place the millage on the ballot.

The Home Builders Association and the *Ann Arbor News* attacked proponents for not making such a major initiative public sooner. Privately, even some environmental leaders complain that the plan was too sketchy and hastily developed. They didn't speak out publicly, they say, for fear of Cowherd's wrath.

Cowherd brusquely dismisses critics of the proposal's timing. "People knew all along this was coming," he says. "It was not a sinister secret sprung on the community by a cabal of environmentalists." Yet he also admits that the plan was kept under wraps as long as possible, so that opponents would have less time to raise money.

That strategy worked. The Home Builders Association spent \$400,000 to defeat the 1998 PDR proposal, and Jeff Fisher, an HBA official, vowed early on to spend whatever it would take to kill the greenbelt. In the end, though, the opponents raised just \$230,000.

The Green Machine collected \$140,000 from 600 donors, and the Sierra Club chipped in another \$42,000—the proceeds of five years' worth of fund-raisers that



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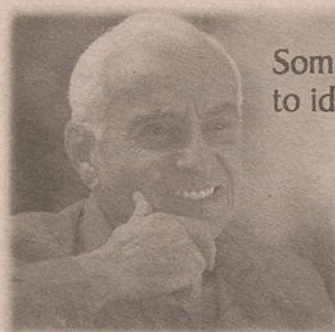
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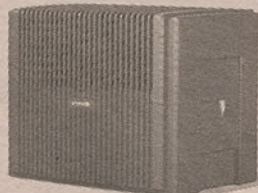
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Cowherd says were all targeted to fight sprawl. The pro-greenbelt campaign also mobilized 400 volunteers. "There's never been a campaign in this town that's had this many people volunteering and contributing," says Cowherd. "It was a real David-versus-Goliath battle, and one of the few times David won. It was real grassroots power!"

David had a high-powered slingshot. A \$122,000 media campaign engineered by Philadelphia's Shorr, Johnson & Associates put the home builders' group itself in the crosshairs. "Big Developers Cry BOO on [Proposal] B," said one brochure, featuring two businessmen peering over a bulldozer. "Their lobbyists, armed with Big Money and Tall Tales, roll into town to scare Ann Arbor voters."

To Cowherd, any greenbelt opponent was a tool of the developers. He charges that they "whipped up" an antigreenbelt group called Citizens for Ann Arbor Parks. Although it included former Republican mayors Jerry Jernigan and Ingrid Sheldon, Cowherd dismiss-

es it as a "fake group" of "people who have never done a damn thing for parks."

While Cowherd played hardball, Hieftje's savvy salesmanship cemented the endorsements of key business leaders, including David Canter of Pfizer and automaker Bill Ford Jr. In debates, Hieftje repeatedly pointed to his catholic list of endorsers. In so doing, he managed to make environmentalism safe for business—quite a feat for a real estate agent in a campaign that vilified contractors for meeting public demand for new homes.

It's no accident that the greenbelt's advocates attacked the people who built suburban houses but not the people who bought them. In fact, some of proposal B's most ardent supporters had recently moved to the country and now wanted to keep others from blighting their scenic views. "Many of our strongest volunteers live in what were once sprawl subdivisions," Cowherd admits.

Cowherd was "so convinced we were in a tight race" that he personally lent the campaign \$60,000 to finance a last-minute advertising push. (The campaign has since repaid him \$47,000.) In the end, though, Ann Arborites backed proposal B two-to-one. A land-use group that tracks ballot initiatives nationwide, the Trust for Public Land, says it's the first time that a tax proposal to preserve open space has prevailed over well-funded developer opposition.

Cowherd takes a businesslike view of the victory: "The Sierra Club and I put up

a hundred thousand dollars in risk capital. And we didn't know whether it would be paid back. It's resulted in eighty-nine million dollars in land preservation capital. I consider that a tremendous investment!"

Lennon and McCartney

Almost as remarkable as the greenbelt's resounding victory is that its chief architect and chief spokesman—Cowherd and Hieftje—barely talked to each other during the campaign.

Hanson, a confidant of both men, describes the pair as a latter-day John Lennon and Paul McCartney. The comparison is apt. Cowherd is the well-read, deep-thinking, acerbic, uncompromising incendiary. Hieftje is the sweet-talking popularizer and conciliator who tries not to offend. And like the former Beatles, Cowherd and Hieftje have clashed since they first met.

Hieftje willingly talks about the debt he owes his advisors. Yet he seems to go out of his way to avoid mentioning Cowherd, even in connection with the greenbelt. The

mayor bristles at any suggestion that Cowherd is the power behind the throne.

"I'm not beholden to the Sierra Club," says Hieftje. "I've been a member since 1984, so I believe in what they stand for. But it's not because I owe somebody a favor or worry about losing their support."

Cowherd gives Hieftje perfunctory credit for being an effective public spokesman, but otherwise, his gratitude is conspicuous in its absence. The proud outsider makes it clear that he doesn't like politicians in general—and that no local officeholder, including Hieftje, has yet earned the Sierra Club's powerful endorsement this year.

Despite the enormous success of their inside-outside game, the relationship contains built-in tensions. While Cowherd need answer to no one but his membership, Hieftje has to balance competing interests. In addition to the team that put him in office, he has to deal with business people, developers, the U-M, the council, the county, his own city staff, and a multitude of interest groups.

The future of their alliance—and of the Green Machine in its present form—may hinge on how the two men answer a crucial political question: how much new development, if any, to allow within the city.

During the greenbelt campaign, Hieftje committed to working for more housing downtown. But Cowherd says that there was nothing in proposal B about housing and that there should be no linkage between the greenbelt and urban density.

Cowherd says that he has always supported sensible housing downtown, and he ticks off a short list of small projects he thinks were done right. He and Hanson, however, both criticize the mayor for not doing more to stop the biggest downtown

housing project currently under way, the Corner House Lofts on State Street. Hieftje voted against the project but "didn't do a thing to get anyone else on council to defeat it," Cowherd complains.

Hieftje supported Broadway Village, a major office-commercial-residential complex approved for the site of the old Broadway Kroger. But Cowherd is lobbying hard to get the development halted or changed. He thinks it's too dense, and he's bothered by how the deal is being financed.

Hieftje, however, is not the only environmentalist supporting Broadway Village. The Huron River Watershed Council favors the project. Its executive director, Laura Rubin, says that with the approval of the greenbelt, her group is more committed to supporting dense housing in the city. "Greater density has got to go hand-in-hand in order for the greenbelt to be effective," Rubin says.

The debate has the potential to split the local environmental movement. The Green Machine regards those who support greater density as unwitting pawns of developers. Some of its critics call Cowherd and his colleagues "NIMBY environmentalists."

Since neighbors rarely welcome new neighbors, the stage seems to be set for even more rancorous development fights in the future. And that, in turn, makes some folks wonder what will happen to the millions of dollars voters just approved for buying parks in Ann Arbor and preserving open space in the nearby townships. Will the money be spent hastily to preserve the first rutted paths and marginal woodlands proposed for development?

"If we say yes to pieces of shit like Dicken Woods and Sunset Ridge," worries one city staffer, "how are we going to say no to neighbors of better land?"

Hieftje says he's confident that the nine-member greenbelt commission due to be named in February will make good choices. But it's not yet clear whether the mayor will be around to oversee the greenbelt's implementation: he says he hasn't decided yet whether to seek a third term this November.

Even if Hieftje steps down, it's unlikely that Cowherd will run for office himself—"I'm not PC enough for that," he chuckles. Besides, he's much more comfortable as an outsider. Cowherd calls himself "a serial entrepreneur just looking for my next thing." He says he'd love to work on more ballot initiatives, and he toys with the notion of starting a weekly paper to challenge the hegemony of the *Ann Arbor News*.

Whatever he does next, no one expects Cowherd to abandon local politics. If Hieftje doesn't run, Phil D'Anieri predicts, "the next mayor is clearly one that Doug will have recruited himself. There is no political organization remotely as strong as his. The candidate will have a lot of money, a sound political strategy, a network of volunteers, and a fiscally conservative anti-sprawl philosophy."

Cowherd says the Sierra Club is always looking for suitable candidates to endorse. And he says he'd have no trouble backing a Republican or Green Party candidate who passes muster on the issues. Muses Cowherd, "There could be a Green mayor in this town someday." ■

Ann Arbor Observer

success story



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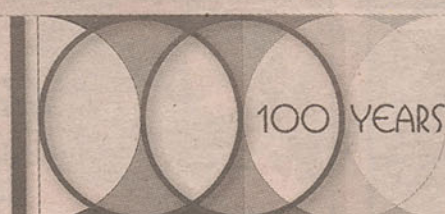
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Love, Sweetwaters Style

The cafe as aphrodisiac.

by Jan Schlein



In the beginning, Pete Rinehart would park his Yellow Cab at the stand on Washington Street and run into Sweetwaters Cafe for a latte.

Within a year he was working there himself, greeting customers and shaping hearts in the foam of his lover's cappuccinos.

In a *Wall Street Journal* article framed on Sweetwaters' wall, two women journalists list it as one of their favorite cafes, calling it a "European-style cafe" that's "big for business meetings." But that's not all it's big for. It's hard to find love or land a deal anywhere, but it may be less so at Sweetwaters.

From the rich desserts under glass to the young, sexy hires behind the counter, there is a tempting quality to the cafe at Washington and Ashley. But despite the sometimes steamy conversations and occasional unsubtle sexual innuendos, there have been no sexual harassment cases filed, no million-dollar judgments for a flirt gone awry or an unwanted invitation. In fact, the only lawyers in the picture are smiling, ordering lattes, and paying for them like everybody else. It's a safe place, for a lot of reasons, and it seems to encourage relationships.

"I was first a customer," Pete remembers. "Joan and Rich were working the morning shift, and I'd park my cab to get a coffee. At first they didn't know my name, but all I had to say is 'Make it my regular,' and they'd always get my order right—a double vanilla latte. You keep going back to a place like that."

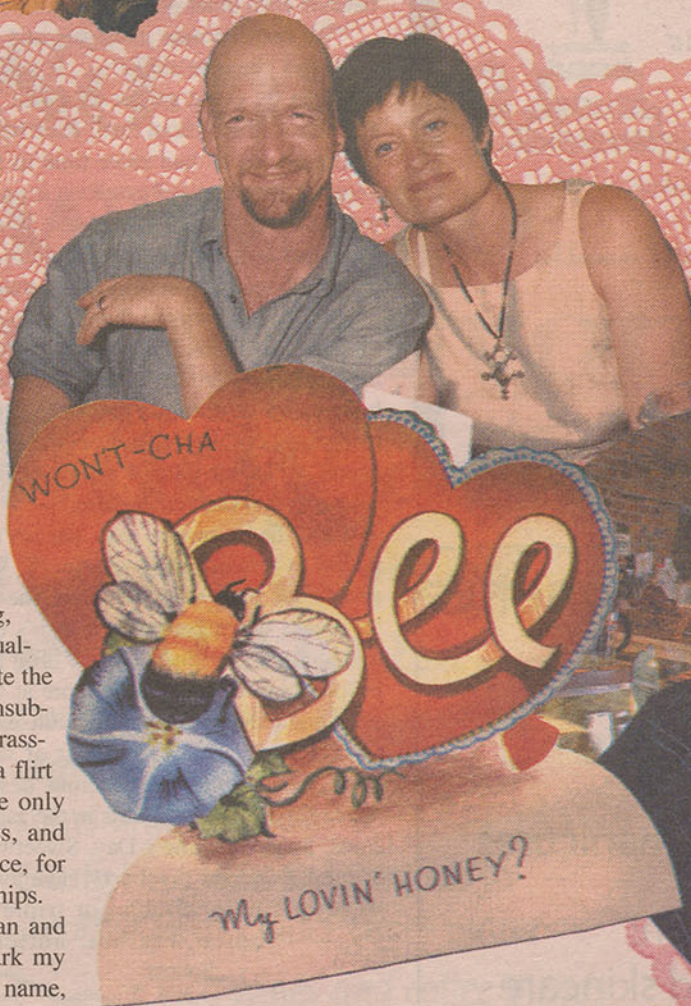
Pete took it a couple steps farther—taking a job at Sweetwaters, falling in love with a customer and marrying her, and eventually falling so in love with the cafe life that he's opening up a place of his own in Ypsilanti.

"Everybody has a place," says Caroline Weindorf, who owns Voila women's clothing on Main. "It's a good mix—students, townies, professionals."

"It's a window to the world," says Joan Chin, whose daughter and son-in-law opened the cafe in 1993. "You can see the world coming and going."

Which happens more, business or romance? Says Joan, "It's a smattering of both."

The sun isn't even up when Joan props the door open at 6:30 a.m. for the early birds who come in before the official opening at 7. "We're here anyway, and I'm brewing the coffee," explains Joan, who's wearing a well-fitting black Sweetwaters T-shirt, black pants, and a pink silk flower behind her ear. With an affectionate smile,



Cafe couples: Pete Rinehart and Lesley Chace (above) met at Sweetwaters. (Right) Owners Wei and Lisa Chin Bee set the tone. (Top) The Sweetwaters lady—Lisa's mom, Joan Chin.

she adds, "They call themselves the breakfast club."

Tom Fuleky, a stonemason, builder, and ex-marine who gets a lot of joy out of playing classical guitar and talking with people, is usually the first to arrive. Other regulars follow—Paul, the builder; Bruce, the anesthesiologist; Tim, the computer consultant; Mike, the periodontist. Joan knows all their names and their orders, and Tom never fails to say hello. On occasion he'll invite a cafe group to his home for dinner or to see his new kitchen floor, or he'll invite his wife to the cafe and bring his grown kids, introducing them to his cafe friends.

"When you see people so often, you become friends," explains Lisa Chin Bee, Joan's daughter and Sweetwaters' co-owner. Lisa and her husband, Wei Bee, both graduated from the U-M with degrees in Asian studies, and both come from restaurant families. Wei's parents own Forbidden City, and Lisa's parents had a Chinese restaurant in Cleveland for many years. After Joan's husband

was killed in a car accident, she continued on her own for eight years—until Lisa and Wei asked her to move to Ann Arbor to help them open Sweetwaters. "I've been here since day one," she says.

At 8:30 or so, the next wave comes in. "Hi, Don. Your usual?" asks Joan. Another man comes for his usual, then a couple of new faces, and then Al, in jeans and full beard, walks in with his old coffee-stained plastic Sweetwaters mug, and many minutes later is still hanging around the counter, squeezing that last bit of warmth and conversation out of the women behind it. "Hi, Al. . . Good-bye, Al," they say.



Then come the lawyers who work in the building. Joan greets each one by name, strikes up a little conversation, knows their orders. She knows the names and orders of those who come in groups—

from the mortgage department at National City to the hair stylists from Salon 344—and the professors, writers, builders, fund-raisers, and other coffee lovers who come in solo. Sometimes you can see marital trouble brewing or bliss bubbling.

For Pete the cabbie, it was bliss. He started out as a customer, began working at Sweetwaters in 1997, and met Lesley Chace there in 1998. He says he knew right off she was the one, but "it took me about two years to convince Lesley." They've been married for two and a half years.

Pete passes the phone to Lesley so that she can tell me her side of the story. She recalls romantically how "Pete always got my order right. He even put a heart in the foam. . . . There was just enough brown to shape a heart."

Minutes later, Lesley calls back. "Jan," she says, "this is Lesley again, of Pete and Lesley. Pete just told me, about that heart in the cappuccino—he did that for everybody!" (So does Joan.)

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Love, Sweetwaters Style

continued

Rich Colpean also met his future wife working at Sweetwaters. Jessica began as a customer and became a coworker. "I was attracted to Jessica at first physically—like a typical male," Rich admits. "Then we clicked in terms of our personalities." Rich is twenty-nine, Jessica twenty-eight. "I was the typical engineer, type A—total control freak. She has a natural resources degree—laid back. I used to joke and call her a tree hugger. We're opposites—we balance each other out."

"We both became managers and eventually got separate shifts. . . . It was easier—then we could go out on a date" (Jessica was still in school then; Rich had just graduated, so he had more time to spend with her after hours). Now Rich is an engineer at Ford. Jessica is on leave from the Michigan Department of Agriculture—she gave birth to daughter Sophie in January.

"If I hadn't worked there," says Rich, "Jessica and I would never have met. The biggest thing I can say is that Sweetwaters brings a lot of different people together—med students, doctors, lawyers, LS&A students. . . . I think a lot of people on different paths find each other there."

Lisa, the co-owner, says she isn't surprised at the in-house romances. When people see each other so often, she says, "it breaks down barriers—then it's easier to become more than friends." But some people think there's a little more at work. They see a flirtatious quality in the cafe itself—the glossy, warm decor of wood, brick, and granite; the luscious descriptions of the food; the hearts in the cappuccinos. Last Valentine's Day, Sweetwaters offered a special raspberry steamer. Instead of single, double, or triple, the choice was hot, hotter, or hottest.

The tree hugger and the engineer: Jessica and Rich Colpean crossed paths working at the cafe.

Is Sweetwaters itself an aphrodisiac? "It wasn't planned that way," Lisa replies. But the more she thinks about it, the more she blushes.

"Oh, God, yes," says a thirty-something male customer. "Fresh art keeps churning out on the walls. It's all about sex and flirting. It's ninety percent of why people come in here, other than work."

"It's our Hollywood," he says.

Kathie East didn't come to Sweetwaters to flirt—she wasn't even looking to meet anyone. But in December 2002 Dan Dwyer noticed her sitting quietly by the front window, reading her *New York Times*. Three months later, on a Sunday when the cafe was crowded, he invited her to share his table. They talked for two hours. The next Sunday, they talked for three hours. And last August, on the morning after the blackout, Kathie and Dan got married—at Sweetwaters.

Why there? "Because that's where we met," says Kathie. They've since moved to Springfield, Missouri, where Kathie runs a nonprofit and Dan is director of ethics at St. John's Hospital.

Kim and Matt Kreuzwieser also met at Sweetwaters; they have been married for three and a half years, and together for over six.

Kim had recently graduated from the U-M with degrees in German and political science and was teaching English at Access International. She was a customer first: "They have the best coffee." She needed a second part-time job, and she thought working in a cafe would be fun. "I had no restaurant experience, but I have an outgoing personality and teaching experience."

She says that she and Matt "became friends from different sides of the counter." His office was upstairs in the Earle Building—"he worked for a software company, Imageware. I worked the afternoon shift; he'd come in the afternoon. Then he started coming more and more. I was seeing a man at the time—that was doomed."

"One afternoon [Matt] said to me, 'I'm just hanging out. If you're getting off work soon, would you like to go to dinner?'"



Matt and Kim Kreuzwieser became friends from different sides of the counter.

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He's a little bit shy. . . . We went to Gratz. The first time, we just connected."

Kim says there was a lot of dating among the Sweetwaters crew. "It's a good, fun place—all windows, light, a great atmosphere. The regular customers are funny. People come and want to hang out and talk."

A young man who just graduated from the U-M and lives near campus says he takes the long walk to Sweetwaters because he doesn't like always hanging out with people his own age. "That," he says, "and there are a lot of cute girls behind the counter."

Recalls Kim, "The girls got hit on quite often. We were all very friendly—we enjoyed talking to the customers. People found us accessible, but safe."

There will always be a few people who take things a little too far, mixing their reality and fantasy a little too much. But all in all, it works.

The police have had to make a visit or two, but mostly to encourage a homeless person to leave the restroom (or to get their own coffees to go). Besides tying up the restroom, there are a few other no-nos, like bringing your own lunch, talking loudly on a cell phone, smoking, or, on weekends, holding a table for four when you're only one.

The cafe's physical space is also part of

Last August, on the morning after the blackout, Kathie East and Dan Dwyer got married—at Sweetwaters.

Why there? "Because that's where we met," says Kathie.

its attraction—not just the comfortably elegant interior, but also its corner view of the passing parade. Before Sweetwaters opened, one regular says, he used to frequent Espresso Royale around the corner on Main. When asked why he switched, he says simply, "Windows."

Lynne and Dave Rago didn't meet at Sweetwaters, but it's become their special place. They started coming in before their three-year-old, Brian, was born. "Dave likes to do the crossword puzzles, and I read," says Lynne.

Lynne teaches English at Washtenaw Community College and was in the software business for many years; Dave is a software manager and works up the street from the cafe in the Allmendinger Building. "Brian learned to walk here," Lynne says. "Dave's been through a couple of layoffs, so he did a little networking here. I graded papers here."

"What does this place replace in people's lives?" Lynne asks. "I don't know—church? This place connects us to the community. We have talked about mov-



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Love, Sweetwaters Style

continued



Dave, Evan, Lynne, and Brian Rago are all regulars. "This place connects us to the community," says Lynne.

years. He still comes into Sweetwaters a couple times a week.

The way the cafe brings people together, says Tommy, "is strange in a wonderful sense. In a restaurant you isolate yourself." He says, "I feel like a lucky man." And Joan feels lucky too.

Lisa and Wei also find symbiosis in their working relationship. "Wei knows how to fix things," says Lisa.

ing to the country, but I think I'd have a hard time with that now. I'd be giving up too much.

"Not much of the feeling is in the coffee—it makes a difference, though, that it's not a chain."

Although there's been a Sweetwaters in Saline for several years, and Wei and Lisa are opening another in Royal Oak this month, "this is the number one store," Lynne says. "It's an adult place—kids are welcome, but the kids here don't get in your face. Kids learn good manners when you take kids out a lot."

Lynne appreciates that Joan took the time to learn not only her name and Dave's name but also their kids' names (Brian has an infant brother, Evan). In turn, many regulars have gotten to know Joan's grandchildren, Lisa and Wei's three children—the youngest, Connor, is on the verge of walking.

Joan—whom even Lisa calls "the Sweetwaters lady"—has a cafe love story of her own. Although she doesn't advertise it, she, too, met someone at Sweetwaters.

Tommy, who prefers not to give his last name, is a well-built middle-aged man with salt-and-pepper hair and beard. He lives in Tecumseh but frequently works with businesses in Ann Arbor. When he was in the army, he says, he drank a lot of mudlike coffee; now, when he comes to Sweetwaters, he drinks green tea.

"I was sitting at a table, and Joan was sweeping the area around me," Tommy remembers. "Conversation started about movies. . . . Then, about a hundred sentences later, it came out that she loved to dance. She said, smiling, 'If you're going to date me, you have to love to dance.'"

"What drew me to him is he had a sparkle in his eye," Joan says. "It took a month from the time of our first meeting to our first date."

Tommy does love to dance, but he loves mountain Greek dancing; Joan enjoys ballroom. Tommy admits, "I hadn't danced in thirty years. The first time I went with Joan it was like going over Niagara Falls." He survived the plunge, and they've been dating for the past three

"He handles all the operational equipment. I take care of the marketing and promotion." When it came time to pick the cafe's name, she recalls, "we tried to find one that covered everything we sold. So we came up with the liquid—the 'water'—and the 'sweet.'"

"The name sounds nice in Chinese, too. It's pronounced 'tian-shuai.' Our logo, the chop on top, says 'sweet water.'"

As for Pete and Lesley, she now works for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Detroit. They've moved to Ypsilanti, where Pete is about to open his own coffeehouse, called Bombadill's, on Michigan Avenue. He hopes the new place will have elements of both Sweetwaters and Cafe Felix, where he also worked for a time.

"Sweetwaters is a perfect example of an American coffeehouse," he says. "I hope mine feels the same—makes people feel welcome. I'll borrow some ideas: the hardwood floors, the brick wall behind. And no fluorescent lighting! Like Sweetwaters, we'll have soft directional lighting."

"Sweetwaters is a place you can be yourself. It's the honesty that brings people together." And with Pete's touch of the romantic, it's a good bet he'll continue shaping hearts in everybody's cappuccinos.

Meanwhile, Lisa and Wei continue to update, and to add new cafes. Eventually they'd like to sell franchises. If Sweetwaters does go national, can they find a way to package its come-hither quality?

To judge from the Saline cafe, the answer is yes. Two years ago, chiropractor Corey Bakian was sitting by the front window when a former patient he hadn't seen in seven years walked in. Kathy's husband had died two years earlier. She was just back from a trip to California, ready to begin the next chapter in her life. Corey was recovering from a bad divorce.

"It was love at that moment," says Kathy. Last August, two years and many romantic Sweetwaters lunches after that fateful meeting, Corey and Kathy Bakian were married. They gave their wedding guests chocolates—and bags of Sweetwaters' coffee.

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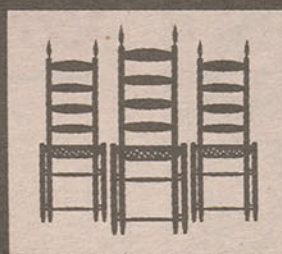
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RESTAURANTS

Lotus Thai

Calm before the fire

With its soft green walls and blond wood tables, Lotus Thai imparts instant calm. The Zenlike decor consists of just a few plants and three oversize prints of perfect lotus blossoms. The design lulls you into a sense of tranquillity before the kitchen totally overwhelms your taste buds.

The Lotus Thai chain has twelve branches in Bangkok, but this is its first overseas restaurant, and the dishes definitely have not been tamed for Western tastes. This is the place to find Thailand's complex whirl of salty, sour, and fiery flavors—with an emphasis on fire. When I was there, the restaurant did not yet have its liquor license, but a handsome wooden bar was all set up for it. In the meantime, Thai iced tea is mild and sweet, and the lime soda exquisitely sour. Either one does a good job of keeping the fire under control.

Most dishes at Lotus Thai are elegantly presented on leaf-shaped plates with pretty garnishes. The chicken satay, six skewers of coconut-scented chicken breast strips, is grilled and served with a zippy peanut sauce. *Kratong tong* are billed as "make-your-own dumplings." Egg roll wrappers are formed into tiny, crispy bowls, which you fill with a mixture of diced chicken and vegetables before popping them into your mouth. I ordered them out of pure curiosity, and I'm glad I did, because they were delicious as well as fun.

I liked the dumplings better than the slim egg rolls, which are served upright in a drinking glass—they're so thin there's barely enough room for filling. Another unusual presentation is the green papaya salad, which arrives in the wooden bowl of a mortar-and-pestle set. The papaya—cool and fresh tasting—contrasts nicely with the lime-juice-and-dried-shrimp dressing, while the cherry tomatoes and peanuts add appealing texture and color. But watch out for the "bird's eye" chilies lurking inside. Thais love these tiny, intensely hot peppers, which show up in the most unexpected places. I enjoy hot food, but I like a little warning before eating something that will set my lips aflame.

I could have made a meal out of each of the soups I tried. The *tom yum goong*, tangy and flavorful, had plump shrimp floating in a clear broth along with cilantro, lemongrass, and lime leaves. The *tom khao gai* was even more exciting, with coconut milk and lime accenting a chicken broth loaded with big slices of chicken breast, lime leaves, mushrooms, and peppers.

Coconut milk was also used to good effect in the red coconut-milk curry. I ordered it on two different visits, once with chicken breast and once with shrimp, and had a hard time saying which was better, although chicken probably won by a thin margin. The coconut milk mellowed



out the sharp curry, producing a sweetly spicy, harmonious dish. Strips of red pepper and basil leaves float in the sauce, which soaks right into the tender chicken pieces. Another favorite is the lobster tail, one of the restaurant's signature dishes. Tender lobster meat is cooked with shallots and dried peppers, with tamarind sauce adding an exotic kick. There must have been an entire garlic bulb in the garlic shrimp; the aroma cleared my sinuses before I even took a bite. For garlic lovers, it was heavenly. After we devoured the shrimp and the asparagus spears, my dining companion scooped all the rest of the sauce onto his rice (picking out the tiny killer peppers first).

No visit to a Thai restaurant would be complete without a taste of pad thai, probably the best-known Thai dish. I absolutely adored Lotus Thai's version, its wide rice noodles topped with generous amounts of tofu, chicken, bean sprouts, and ground peanuts. A squirt of the accompanying lime wedge made the whole thing sing.

I was less impressed with the fried sea bass. The chili-tamarind sauce was zesty and interesting, but the underlying fish—sliced into impossibly thin fillets—was overcooked and oily. The Thai omelet was flat and crisp, with just a few bits of basil and onion to liven it up, topped with about a teaspoon of crabmeat. The omelet seemed drab and unappealing, and I don't think it's just because my taste buds were hopping from the other, livelier dishes.

I would have liked to order dessert on my first visit, but the waitress presented the bill without offering any. On my next visit, I asked, and our waiter hemmed and hawed before admitting that yes, Lotus Thai had a few desserts to choose from. After trying two, I understood his hesitation. The *kow neaw mamoung*—sticky rice with mango—was truly terrible. The sticky rice tasted

salty instead of sweet, and the mango wasn't ripe. The *tuftim krob* is a curious dish: bright pink candied water chestnuts sit at the bottom of a bowl topped with coconut milk and ice cubes. I couldn't decide whether I liked it or not. I kept putting down my spoon, saying "hmmm," and trying one more bite. Even so, I will skip dessert next time.

But there *will* be a next time. I'm looking forward to returning to Lotus Thai, allowing the serene atmosphere to soothe my spirit while the thrilling food fires up—and satisfies—my appetite.

—Margaret Yang

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don't remember the food anyway. What I recall most are the fishing stories that flowed even faster than the beer. I suspect the swamp reclaimed that time-warped shack years ago, but it still remains my benchmark for bars with character.

Ann Arbor's Old Town Tavern doesn't have gas pumps or a pier, but it does have soul. Built shortly after the Civil War, the Italianate storefront has high tin ceilings, exposed brick walls, and an inviting old-fashioned bar. This is no prepackaged fern bar—it's an honest-to-goodness neighborhood tavern, the kind of place where you become a regular and order from the menu without looking at it.

That menu is anchored with sa-loon staples, such as Buffalo wings, sandwiches, and burgers. The Old Town produces a fine hamburger on a Kaiser roll; you can order from a dozen topping options, but I prefer mine uncomplicated. Instead of steak fries, I suggest the sweet potato fries with honey mustard dressing—not only are they healthier, they pack more flavor. The chili cheese fries are equally good—so good you may want to order a full bowl of the chili with meat, chorizo, beans, and chipotle peppers instead. This hearty dish will take the chill out of any wintry night. The seafood-and-sausage gumbo isn't exactly what you would find in New Orleans, but it is still a flavorful rendition. The clam chowder (served only on weekends) is classically good, creamy and full of clams and potatoes.

I tend to believe that a grilled cheese sandwich should be plain and simple, but the Old Town's version—with Swiss cheese, portobello and button mushrooms, tomatoes, and bacon—is an overkill that I'll happily experience again. Quesadillas are done the way they should be: crispy on the outside with warm cheese on the inside. Grilled sandwiches shine, perhaps because the Old Town puts plenty of butter on the bread. The warm veggie pita is wrapped with plenty of fresh ingredients, including steamed spinach, mushrooms, and feta.

The one salad I tried, a jazzy steak salad with blue cheese and grilled onions, was tasty but suffocated by a gargantuan portion of lettuce. It should not take a village to eat a salad.

Dinner specials were less consistent. The salmon had a beautiful light crust but was slightly overcooked, and the side of rice was dry. Ditto for the grilled mahimahi with pineapple butter.

My friend who ordered the lasagna liked the combination of cheese, spinach, and meat, but with all those flavors in combat, I thought it tasted too much like a pile of leftovers.

We had better luck with the pound of tender barbecued baby back ribs, which arrived in a tangy sauce with garlic-laced mashed potatoes and steamed green beans. Our server was quick to tell us that the meat didn't fall off the bones. "That would be pulled pork, and this is done right," he said. And I agree.

Desserts are from Doughboys and vary daily. Our group shared a cheesecake one night that was just fine, but to be honest, I was too intent on honing my skills as a new regular: eavesdropping on other customers, hoping for a fishing story.

—Elizabeth Méricas



Old Town Tavern
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—E.M.

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MARKETPLACE CHANGES



Joe Kouza may have to redo some of his remodeling—those garage doors he removed from the Beer Depot may have been historic.

A historic drive-through?

The Kouzas buy the Beer Depot

Ann Arbor's only surviving drive-through party store—open since 1941—is a drive-through no longer. Joe Kouza and his family, who recently bought the **Beer Depot** and its attached apartment house from founder Joe Daley, say the Michigan Liquor Control Commission made getting rid of the drive-through a condition of the liquor license transfer.

Ironically, no sooner had Kouza satisfied the dictates of one commission than he ran afoul of another: the Ann Arbor Historic District Commission objected to Kouza's replacing the store's original garage doors with plate glass windows.

City historic preservation coordinator Heather Edwards says the Kouzas got as far as they did only because they didn't pull any permits for the remodeling. "The

property has acquired a lot of historical significance over time, and it's a district where I can approve virtually no changes," says Edwards. "They needed to have the commission review their plans before taking down those garage doors, so they're basically shut down right now. Hopefully we'll be able to review those plans at our February meeting."

Kouza hopes it won't take that long to have the stop-work order removed from the store's front door and to open for business. But even if he does manage to open, he'll still have to square things with the historic district commission. According to Edwards, if the commission deems the removal of the garage doors "not appropriate, they will have to undo what they've done."

Even if the doors are restored, drive-through alcohol sales are gone forever. Aside from that admittedly significant fact, regulars should find much of the inventory familiar once the place reopens. There will, however, be more of it. The Kouzas, who also own the Main Street Party Shoppe, are using the space freed by the closing of the drive-through to add more upscale wines, along with home wine- and beer-making supplies.

What definitely won't change: the store's name and its deliciously retro, if no longer applicable, front sign, complete with neon arrow pointing around the corner—to the spot where the driveway once entered the store.

The Beer Depot, 114 East William, phone and hours unavailable at press time.

Taste reopens

Fancy takeout in Braun Court

Most people who endure business closings don't consider them good things. But to Woodie Thomas, chef and founder of **Taste** in Braun Court, temporarily shuttering his restaurant so that he could retool his concept and concentrate on his catering business was all positive. "I knew where I wanted to go and what I needed to do to get there," he says, "so it was no problem to me to shut down for two or three months. Anyway, people were still pounding on the door, asking me what I had cooking that day!"

The reopened Taste is nothing much to look at—just a few tables downstairs and a banquet table upstairs for large groups—but for the high-energy Thomas, an avid snowboarder and former Aspen chef who once cooked for the town's celebrity high rollers, the food is the thing. The restaurant, which he considers a showcase for his catering business, is now complemented by new gourmet take-out selections, a concept he says he's been wanting to try for years. "I don't have the wild decor. I don't have money for fancy artwork," he says. "But my food is presented as fine dining and is expressed to the best of my abilities and knowledge."

Taste's menu is eclectic, embracing both comfort food classics (tuna melts, Philly cheesesteaks, open-face hot turkey sandwiches) and culinary adventures, like a roasted-red-pepper-and-cilantro-grilled-chicken sandwich, stuffed skate in lemon



Snowboarder-chef Woodie Thomas sees his reopened Braun Court restaurant, Taste, as a showcase for his catering business.



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MARKETPLACE CHANGES *continued*



COURTESY HOWARD COOPER

An architect's rendering shows off Honda's new look.

butter with capers, and a salad of portobello mushrooms, penne, sun-dried tomatoes, spinach, and garlic.

At breakfast Thomas offers not only the basics—eggs, sausage, biscuits, hash browns—but also fascinating selections like his Tuba City Truck Stop (beer-and-molasses-soaked southwestern-style beans served with flour tortillas and choice of eggs); French toast with fresh strawberries, organic yogurt, and mint salsa; and a Mediterranean omelet stuffed with herb-roasted chicken, sun-dried tomatoes, and feta. "My mornings are precious to me," Thomas says. "This is not Denny's."

Thomas's French toast comes with fresh strawberries, organic yogurt, and mint salsa. His Tuba City Truck Stop features beer-and-molasses-soaked southwestern-style beans served with flour tortillas and choice of eggs.

In the deli case by the cash register, pasta and vegetable salads, side dishes, and desserts reside alongside fully sauced and garnished entrees, all ready to heat and serve, or, if you prefer, ordered in advance to be picked up hot. The entrees—priced at \$4.99 to \$6.99—include Thai vegetable spring rolls, a grilled eggplant Napoleon, salmon in honey-mint pesto, and chicken with roasted garlic in a Marsala sauce.

Thomas says he's sorry to have turned away so many regular customers over the holidays, but this time around he plans to stay open for good. "The first time I felt like I was flying by the seat of my pants," he says. "This time, I have no doubts. I have the staff, and I'm ready to do what I want to do."

Taste, 317 Braun Court, 213-7900.
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat. (breakfast only) 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Closed Sun.

Reconstructing Howard Cooper

*The wave meets
the beer can*

In 1965 Howard Cooper bought a farm on South State Road and turned it into a Volkswagen dealership. "People thought I was crazy because there was nothing else out here, but I knew Briarwood was on the drawing board," Cooper says. "I decided to invest every dollar I had on the south side of town."

Obviously, it turned out to be a smart move. **Howard Cooper Imports** added Porsche and Audi in 1971 and a Honda franchise in 1979. More recently, Cooper expanded into a 1950s-era building next door, which he used first for a short-lived Mitsubishi franchise and then for his used-car department.

When that building was recently demolished, Cooper didn't shed a tear. "The roof leaked so bad, if you put somebody up there to fix the leak, they would make a new one everywhere they stepped," he laughs. "We had buckets all over the showroom."

The demolition is just the first step in a total reconstruction of the dealership. When it's complete, Cooper will finally be able to use all of his acreage, which extends clear across Boardwalk (which didn't exist in 1965), for a new two-story, 36,000-square-foot dealership and a car wash for detailing customers' cars after service appointments.

For the new building, architect Scott Sherman used elements of a design to which Honda's corporate office has been asking dealers to conform: a front fascia with a curvaceous canopy, which, according to Cooper, everyone refers to as "the wave." There's also a front entryway formed into a distinctive half cylinder. "I think everybody refers to that as 'the beer can,'" Cooper laughs.

Howard Cooper Imports, 2575 South State, 975-6982. Showroom hours Mon. & Thurs. 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tues., Wed., & Fri. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Sun.

—Laura McReynolds

"A no-win situation"

The curtain falls at the Del Rio

At the end, even the legendary graffiti-filled restrooms at the **Del Rio** bar were painted black.

Just last summer, co-owner Ernie Harburg exuberantly announced the birth of "the Neo Del Rio." For more than thirty years, Harburg, jazz musician Rick Burgess, and bookkeeper-housemother Betty Vary had allowed their staff to run the Washington Street bar as a cooperative. But "it's not working anymore," Harburg said. "We're losing money." So Harburg hired a young manager, Cecilia Hooper; later, Rick's wife, Karen Piehutkoski, also began coming in regularly. Some employees were fired, some quit, and many began picketing with signs reading "Shame," "Boycott," and "Ernie, help" (see "Show-down at the Del Rio," January).

New Year's Eve turned into the Del Rio's farewell celebration. For the occasion, the owners printed up little memento menus with the bar's original menu on one side, including the famed Detburger. On the back it read, "With love, May 1, 1970–December 31, 2003."

When our story went to press in mid-December, the owners seemed determined to see their changes through. Instead, the Del Rio closed for good on New Year's Eve.

"We thought people would cross the picket lines," Piehutkoski explained in January. "But there was too much venom. . . . It seemed to snowball—and it seemed to be focused on me." The restroom graffiti, long celebrated for their literary wit, were also a barometer of the bar's mood—Betty Vary fondly remembers discovering the message "I love Grandma Betty" there years ago. But Piehutkoski began to find much darker inscriptions. "Karen is a cancer," somebody wrote, a cruel reminder of her recent breast cancer treatment. Even scarier was a picture of a woman (resembling herself) with a big hole shot through her stomach and the warning "No more talk."

"I literally had nothing to do with the Del Rio until six weeks ago," Piehutkoski pointed out. "I was representing the owners—I would have put my own money into it to save it." But after seeing the threatening messages, "I told Rick and Betty, 'I

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MARKETPLACE CHANGES *continued*

can't do this anymore. I won't do it."

Soon afterward, the partners talked and decided to pull the plug. "They are sad, and relieved," says Piehutkoski. "It was a no-win situation."

Ernie Harburg says he's learned that "you can't do away with leaders. What we did as owners and what the staff leaders did made a difference." With the Del's owners cutting back on their involvement and more part-time staffers coming on, he says, "we couldn't transmit the culture. It was a case of the inmates taking over the asylum."

Although the owners had already received dozens of inquiries about the space, in early January they hadn't yet decided what to do with it. According to Piehutkoski, the only things changed so far are the graffiti, which were painted over, and the aquarium behind the bar, which Cecilia Hooper was planning to take home. As for the owners, Piehutkoski says, "Rick and I are going to do a little traveling."

New Year's Eve turned into the Del Rio's farewell celebration. For the occasion, the owners printed up little memento menus with the bar's original menu on one side, including the famed Detburger. On the back it read, "With love, May 1, 1970-December 31, 2003."

"It was time to close the show," says Harburg. "We had a great run."

—Jan Schlain

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Briefly Noted

Ann Arbor native and former Domino's Pizza executive Peter Shipman has opened the town's first Qdoba Mexican Grill franchise in Woodland Plaza. The nonsensical but catchy name (pronounced "cue-doba") was invented by the same marketing company that christened Starbucks Coffee.

The Denver-based chain specializes in burritos assembled to order, much as Subway makes sandwiches. Customers start with their choice of a dozen different burritos, including chicken poblano pesto, grilled vegetable, and steak, and then move with their order down the counter to specify black or pinto beans, one of five salsas ranging from mild to extra hot, and additions like cheese and sour cream. All burritos come with cilantro-and-lime-seasoned rice.

Qdoba also sells quesadillas, tacos, taco salads, nachos, soups, and, for those on low-carb diets or with smaller appetites, "naked" burritos: burrito ingredients served in a bowl, with the tortilla on the side.

Shipman, who had been in the insurance business in Texas when he discovered Qdoba, says he immediately thought it would be a good fit for Ann Arbor. "Ann Arbor lifestyles tend to be very much on the go," he says. "Our concept is fresh grilled, fast, clean, and a nice decor. We're also a great choice for people who are health conscious and concerned about what they eat."

Qdoba Mexican Grill, 2252 South

Main, 332-1489. Mon.-Fri. 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

~~~~~

There will be plenty of rude noises on Carpenter Road in February when **Gags & Gifts Party** moves from Maple Village to a new store next to Target. The thirty-store Livonia-based company has been meeting Michigan and Ohio's needs for fake flatulence since 1977. "Our fart category has always been huge: fart cans, Fart Man, fart phones, whoopee cushions," says merchandising director Steve Pepper. "Fart machines are one of our top sellers."

In addition to potty humor, Gags & Gifts Party sells cards, costumes, and a game popular at bridal and baby showers called LCR (an acronym for Left, Center, Right), in which players roll dice to determine whether to pass poker-like chips, quarters, or party favors to another player or to keep them.

The company recently added "Party" to its name to reflect an increased emphasis on themed adult and children's party supplies, in particular licensed character patterns like Clifford the Big Red Dog, Blue's Clues, and Winnie-the-Pooh. The new, 4,700-square-foot store will feature seasonal party supplies, too.

**Gags & Gifts Party**, address and phone not available at press time. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

~~~~~

Just up Carpenter, the **Tile Shop** opened in January in the Carpenter Plaza spot once occupied by Best Products. Part of a twenty-four-store Minnesota-based chain, it features a selection of 860 ceramic, porcelain, and natural stone tiles, plus over 1,500 decorative and finishing pieces and a full line of installation tools and materials. To encourage customers to try installation for themselves, it also offers free hands-on workshops.

The Tile Shop, 3130 Carpenter Road, 677-5695. Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

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**Aven Electronic Parts** opened a retail store inside its Platt Road warehouse in November. Owners Bob Kapi (his name westernized from Bakir Kanpurwala) and Mike Shahpurwala are natives of India who came to the United States to study engineering. They founded Aven almost twenty years ago and have been wholesaling their electronic tools, microscopes, and other "vision systems" across the country ever since. When area students, researchers, and industry professionals began asking to buy those same products locally, Kapi and Shahpurwala decided to branch out into retail. "Ann Arbor had no really good electronics suppliers," Kapi says, "just places like Radio Shack whose products are very commercial."

For now, no one is on the sales floor—customers have to ring the bell to be let into the building—but Kapi says he plans to add staff when demand justifies it. "So far, customers are being very patient," he

says. "They don't mind waiting a moment for us to open the door. They're just glad we're here."

**Aven Electronic Parts**, 4595 Platt Road, 973-0099. Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Sat. & Sun.

~~~~~

National DIY retailer **Lowe's** is in the midst of what its PR department calls "the broadest, most aggressive expansion plan" in the company's history, opening an average of two new home improvement warehouses per week. The first week of February, one of those two new stores will be a 178,000-square-foot behemoth on Jackson Road just west of Zeeb.

In addition to hardware, tools, fixtures, major appliances, and assemble-it-yourself home furnishings, Lowe's stocks a nursery full of gardening supplies and climate-specific flowers, shrubs, and trees. Between the garden center and the sales floor, the store will carry more than 40,000 products.

Lowe's will dwarf its nearest local competitor, Stadium Hardware. But Mike Kruzel, one of Stadium's three partners, says he isn't worried. "We have a more hands-on, service-oriented business, and we don't really get into major appliances," he says. "People like us because we know what we're doing and they can get in and out of here quick."

Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse, 5900 Jackson Road, 302-2400. Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m.-10 p.m., Sat. 7 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

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Also slated to open on Jackson Road: **Panera Bread**. Although company CEO Ron Shaich told the *Wall Street Journal* last June that "we're only in sixty percent of the country and we aren't rushing to sell it out," the company clearly believes in saturating the markets into which it moves: the Jackson Road location will be the third Panera Bread store to open in Ann Arbor in the past two years.

**Panera Bread**, Jackson Road. Address, phone, and hours unavailable at press time.


~~~~~

On Washtenaw Avenue, **Mattress World** replaced **Mattress Discounters** so seamlessly and quietly that even many Ann Arborites who traverse Washtenaw daily were unaware of the change. Like its predecessor, Mattress World sells name-brand standard and pillow-top mattresses, and box springs.

Mattress World, 3550 Washtenaw, 975-6982. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m.

Closings

Giuseppe Cincinnato says he didn't want to close his **Bella Napoli Pizza e Ristorante** on South U. He says he filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy protection last




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MARKETPLACE CHANGES continued

November hoping to buy some time to stabilize the business, but the court-appointed trustee converted the status to chapter 7 (liquidation) only a short time later, padlocking the restaurant's doors and seizing the equipment and inventory inside.

Cincinnati blames the closing not only on the poor economic climate of the past two years but also on his landlord, CPMI Inc. "When I rent the place," he says in his lyrically accented English, "my first concern was the pizza place next door [a pizza-by-the-slice operation inside the neighboring In & Out Party Store]. But the landlord say he just give them permission to sell pizza after Taco Bell closed, and the pizza would be gone."

and we have customers who are coming in every day, just devastated that the shop is closing." Apparently things weren't going so well in other towns, however—the entire thirteen-store women's clothing chain is shutting down.

—L.M.

Follow-Up

Ten years ago this month, the Observer Changes column noted four new businesses. The **Cloverleaf Restaurant**, long a north-side institution, reopened at Fifth Avenue and Liberty. We also reported the openings of the Middle Eastern **E. B. Cafe** in Kerrytown, Washtenaw Avenue clothing store **The Hook-Up**, and a second location, in Westgate, for sports memorabilia shop **Old Ball Park**. A decade later, only the Cloverleaf is still in operation.

February 1994 survival rate: 25 percent

202020

Five years ago this month, we tallied nine retail and restaurant openings. Upscale steak restaurant **The Chop House** and its adjoining dessert cafe, **La Dolce Vita**, on Main Street, are still in business, as are First Street nightspots **Gotham City** and the **Millennium Club**, and sweet-tooth satisfier **Cinnabon** at Briarwood. In 1999 Delphine and Daniel Stephens's State Street store **Ethnic Creations** had just started selling clothing and accessories from co-ops and small companies around the world; since then it has combined with imported furniture and accessories store **Kayu** under that name and moved to Westgate. Gone, however, are the **Barefoot Doctors Apothecary** on Ann Street and the **Great Earth Vitamins** store at Briarwood. The **Crush! Bar** on Main closed, but with its space still occupied by an eating place—Don Carlos Mexican Restaurant and Cantina—it counts as a survivor under our rules.

February 1999 survival rate: 78 percent

202020

One year ago this month, Marketplace Changes reflected a seasonal lull in new businesses. Woodie Thomas's restaurant and catering business **Taste** opened in Braun Court (only to close, revamp, and reopen—see above). We also reported the debuts of Bonnie Rahn's scrapbook supplies store the **Scrap-Yard**, in Baxter's Plaza on Zeeb, and Eunkyung Kim and Sheng Wang's State Street Japanese restaurant **Totoro**. All three made it to their first anniversaries.

February 2003 survival rate: 100 percent

—Paul R. Schwankl

202020

Got a retail or restaurant change? Leave voice mail at 769-3175, extension 364, or send e-mail to lauramcreynolds@sbcglobal.net.

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at Paesano's Ristorante (3411 Washtenaw) 6:30 P.M.
\$79.00/person (Reservations Needed / Limited Seating)
Contact 734.971.0484 or visit www.paesanosannarbor.com

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In the Courtyard Shops, David Weeks closed **Coral Reef**, which sold not only freshwater and saltwater fish but also a fascinating selection of coral. At Briarwood, **Franklin Covey**, which specialized in a dizzying array of planners and other organizational tools, has closed—with **Gala Hallmark**, **Carlton Cards**, and **Sports Mania** soon to follow. On Main Street, Dave Gausden and his partners closed their **Our Town Deli and Coffee Beanery**, just months after converting it from an Amer's Deli (the Our Town Deli on South University remains open). Down the block, **Timbuktu Station** is also gone. Local store manager Pam Jordan says the store here "has been incredibly popular,

FEBRUARY EVENTS

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

By mail: John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.

By fax: 769-3375 or 769-4950.

By e-mail: hinch@aaobserver.com

After-hours drop box: right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine.

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:

The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available at arborweb: www.arborweb.com. This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

★ Denotes no admission charge.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

1 SUNDAY

★**Winter Carnival: Chelsea American Legion Post 31.** January 30 & 31 and February 1. This popular community festival includes 3 days of competitive ice fishing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and more winter fun at Cavanaugh Lake. Daily special events: a euchre tournament (\$5 entry fee; prizes) on January 30, Monte Carlo casino games on January 31, and dancing to live music on February 1. Refreshments, breakfasts, and light lunches available. 7 a.m.-6 p.m., American Legion Hall, 1700 Ridge Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 to exit 156, go north on Kalmbach, then continue straight on Cavanaugh Lake Rd. to Ridge Rd.) Free admission. 475-7212.

★**T'ai Chi.** Every Saturday & Sunday. Local martial arts instructor Gabriel Chin leads a session of t'ai chi, which combines an exaggeratedly slow martial art and meditation. 8:30 a.m., the Cube, north side of Michigan Union. Free. 761-3272.

★**Falun Gong.** Every Sunday. Local practitioners introduce this Chinese discipline, which consists of 5 exercises and meditation. 9-11:15 a.m., Michigan League Koessler Room. Free. 834-4978.

★**Shorinji Kempo.** Every Sunday. This Japanese self-defense system combines hard and soft techniques with Zen philosophy. 9-11 a.m., Arts in Motion Dance Studio, 2839 Boardwalk. Free to first-time visitors (\$25 monthly dues). 332-1780.

★**Silent Vipassana Meditation: Deep Spring Center for Meditation and Spiritual Inquiry.** Every Sunday. Meditators of all levels invited for an hour of silent meditation focusing on the breath. While the practice stems from the earliest and purest Buddhist teachings, this form of meditation requires no religious beliefs. Followed by a 30-minute dharma discussion. 9:30-11 a.m., Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entrance on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations accepted. 477-5848.

Tu B'Shevat Celebration: Jewish Cultural Society. All invited to celebrate the Jewish "New Year of the Trees." Activities include a Matthaei Botanical Gardens conservatory tour with an emphasis on plants of the ancient world, a scavenger hunt, story-



Dady Mehta, Feb. 15



Cecilia Bartoli, Feb. 20

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75 EXHIBIT OPENINGS

Laura Bien

75 GALLERY REVIEW

Bernard Picart's prints at the UMMA

Laura Bien

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John Hinchey

83 NIGHTSPOTS REVIEW

Mike Boyd

Stephanie Kadel-Taras

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Deeply satisfying

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Rejuvenilia

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Practically perfect

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A Father's Affair

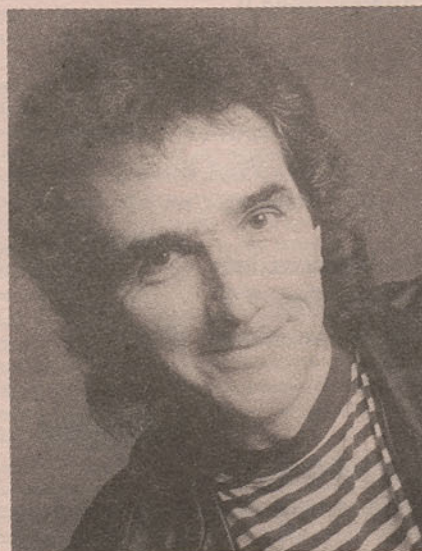
Keith Taylor

81 TRIVIA NIGHT AT THE ARENA

High profile

Charmie Gholson

108 EVENTS AT A GLANCE



Jez Lowe, Feb. 24



Annie Gallup, Feb. 17

telling, music, environmental projects, lectures, and a seder. 10 a.m.-noon, U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. \$3 (kids, \$1) conservatory admission. Reservations required. 975-9872.

★**Ultimate Frisbee: H.A.C. Ultimate.** Every Sunday. All invited to a pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. 10:45 a.m., location TBA. Free. 995-1621.

★**First Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** Every Sunday. A weekly program open to all single adults age 50 & older interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Today: Marge Van Meter discusses "World View: How It Affects Our Response to God." Also this month: Marge Van Meter shows a video on "Transformations: The Story of Communities That Experience Transformations Beginning with the Prayers of One or Two Individuals" (February 8), Norm Samuelson discusses George Lakoff's *Moral Politics: How Liberals and Conservatives Think* (February 15), First Presbyterian minister Anne Marie Kidder leads a discussion of Dan Brown's best-selling thriller *The Da Vinci Code* (February 22), and retired EMU political science professor Benjamin Hourani discusses "Growing Up in the Middle East and a Current and Future Prospect" (February 29). Also, members meet for breakfast every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Cafe Marie in the Courtyard Shops (1759 Plymouth Rd.). 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466, ext. 43.

★**1st Sunday Hot Sauce Tasting: Tios Mexican Cafe.** Tios managers Tim Seaver (at the East Huron Street location) and Jamie Campbell (at the Washtenaw location) offer samples of the hundreds of hot sauces and salsas available at this popular Mexican diner. Work your way through 100 sauces and you'll get a free T-shirt. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Tios Mexican Cafe, 333 E. Huron & 2224 Washtenaw (at Hewitt). Free. 761-6650, 528-4444.

★**"Yoga and Meditation": Sri Chinmoy Center.** Introductory lecture-demo by Prema Jackson, a yoga and meditation instructor from San Francisco. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 994-7114.

International Standard Accuracy Contest: Michigan Atlatl Association. All invited to compete in a contest that includes 5 throws each at 15 m and 20 m targets. *Atlatl* is the Nahuatl (Aztec) word for a Neolithic device used for throwing a spear or dart, a weapon that predates the bow and arrow by several millennia. Also, the Rod & Gun Club's 30-target 3-D course is open today to all archers and atlatlists, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Noon, Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, 7103 Lingane Rd. (south off Waterloo Rd., west of Chelsea). \$9 course fee. (810) 231-2314.

★**Hero Clix Tournament: The Underworld.** Every Sunday. All invited to play this tactical miniatures board game based on battles between different superheroes. With prizes from the manufacturer, WizKids. Noon-4 p.m., The Underworld, 1202 South University. Free. 998-0547.

★**Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Saturday & Sunday. The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. Note: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, change for a phone call, and snacks. 1 p.m. (both days) & 10 a.m. (Saturdays only), meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 913-9851.

★**Ice Skating: Care Choices "Fit Kids, Healthy Future."** February 1, 8, 15, & 22. All kids 17 & under accompanied by an adult invited to ice skate. 1-2:30 p.m., Veterans Park Indoor Arena, Jackson Rd. at Maple. Free. Skate rentals available for a small fee. 761-7240. 2:45-5:15 p.m., Buhr Park Rink, 2751 Packard. Free. Skate rentals available for a small fee. 971-3228.

★**Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Every Sunday. All seniors age 55 & older invited to play bridge. 1-3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

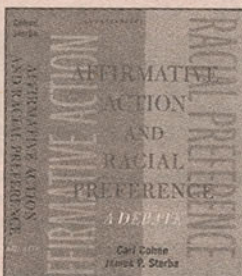
★**"1st Sundays @ 1": Ann Arbor Art Center.** Kids and their parents invited to celebrate the recent Chinese New Year by making a Chinese lantern. 1-2:30 p.m., AAAC, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994-8004.

Gays and Lesbians, Older and Wiser. Potluck and social gathering for gays and lesbians age 50 & older. Bring a dish to pass. 1-3 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd., Suite C. \$2. 764-2556.

"Great Balls of Fire"/"The Solar System: Take a Deep Breath": U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. Every Saturday & Sunday and February 23-27.



FEBRUARY EVENTS @ Ann Arbor District Library



Wednesday Feb. 4 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event: Affirmative Action and Racial Preference** debated by Professors Carl Cohen and James Sterba — Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Thursday Feb. 5 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Protecting Your Rights to Privacy** Lecture by author/activist Susan Raffo Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Tuesday Feb. 10 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event: Being Multi-Racial in America** — A discussion led by author Elizabeth Atkins Bowman and UM librarian Karen Downing Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Thursday Feb. 12 7:00 - 8:30 pm **California's Fetzer Winery President Paul Dolan** discusses his book *True To Our Roots: Fermenting A Business Revolution* — Malletts Creek Branch

Friday Feb. 13 7:00 - 8:30 pm **How To Keep Your New Year's Resolution to Stay Fit** with fitness expert Nia Aguirre — Northeast Branch

Sunday Feb. 15 1:00 - 2:00 pm **Sunday Edition** — UM Law Professor Robert E. Precht discusses the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and his book *Defending Mohammad: Justice on Trial* Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Tuesday Feb. 17 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event: A Student Perspective on Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In the Cafeteria?** — Panel discussion featuring local middle and high school students Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Wednesday Feb. 18 7:00 - 8:30 pm **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event: Racial Profiling and Law Enforcement** — Discussion led by Kenneth Brown, PhD Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Thursday Feb. 19 7:00 - 8:00 pm **Downtown Sounds — Cello Concert** with Stefan Koch and Alicia Rowe — Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Saturday Feb. 21 1:00 - 2:30 pm **Hiking With Disabilities** — Lecture by Ken Knight Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Saturday Feb. 21 2:00 - 3:00 pm **Get Spirited Away With Anime!** — Overview of Japanese Anime filmmaker Hayao Miyazaki by comic book artist Sean Bieri (grades 9-12) — Northeast Branch

Tuesday Feb. 24 1:00 - 1:45 pm **Magician Jeff Wawrzaszek** Northeast Branch
Repeated: Tuesday, Feb. 24, 4:00 - 4:45 pm — Downtown Library
Repeated: Wednesday, Feb. 25, 1:00 - 1:45 pm — West Branch
Repeated: Thursday, Feb. 26, 1:00 - 1:45 pm — Malletts Creek Branch

Wednesday Feb. 25 7:00 - 8:00 pm **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Book Discussion: "Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In the Cafeteria?" And Other Conversations About Race** — Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Sunday Feb. 29 2:00 - 3:30 pm **Seussentennial: Celebrate the 100th Birthday of Dr. Seuss** — Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

1 SUNDAY EVENTS continued

Great Balls of Fire (11:30 a.m. Saturdays only and 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both weekend days and February 23-27) is an audiovisual exploration of the winter sky, which contains the brightest stars of the year, all of them found in well-known constellations, including Rigel, Sirius, Capella, Polaris, Betelgeuse, and Aldebaran. *The Solar System: Take a Deep Breath* (12:30 p.m. Saturdays only and 2:30 p.m. both weekend days and February 23-27) is a humorous audiovisual show featuring weather reports comparing the earth's atmosphere with the varied climate conditions elsewhere in the solar system. 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$3.50. 764-0478.

★**"Where Are the Wild Things?": Barnes & Noble.** One of the Wild Things from Maurice Sendak's classic children's tale hosts this storytelling program for kids ages 2-5. Parents invited to bring their cameras. 2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**"Kerry Tales: Dance and Sing with Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops.** 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and rollicking fun, with local storyteller Trudy Bulkeley as Mother Goose. 2 p.m., Ciacio's Produce Market, ground floor of Kerrytown. Free. 769-3115.

★**Storytime Sundays: Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Sunday. Stories and other activities for kids 6 & up and their families. 2-2:45 p.m. AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

★**Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum.** Every Saturday & Sunday. 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. 2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764-0478.

★**Guild Day: Druids of Shining Lakes Grove.** All invited to meet local neopagans and sit in on meetings of their Magicians (2-3 p.m.), Healers (3-4 p.m.), and Warriors (4-5 p.m.) guilds. 2-5 p.m., 263 Larkspur (take Pontiac Trail north and turn left onto Skydale, left onto Cloverdale, and right onto Larkspur). Free. 998-1029.

★**"Sing-Along Wizard of Oz": Ann Arbor Summer Festival Benefit.** All invited to dress as a favorite Oz character for a sing-along screening (lyrics provided) of the 1939 film classic, based on Frank Baum's tale, about Dorothy's journey to the Emerald City and back. Attendees receive a kit that includes a "magic" wand, "mystical" bubbles, a kazoo, and other goodies. The program begins with a costume parade and contest with prizes. 2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$20 (kids 12 & under, \$15) in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★**"Getting to Know You": Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra Children's Concert.** Adam Riccinto directs this volunteer community orchestra in a children's concert featuring Shostakovich's *Festival Overture*, Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man*, and the first movement of Mozart's *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*. Also, Belleville High student Elizabeth Wagner, the winner of the symphony's 2nd annual soloist competition for musicians age 18 & under, performs Beethoven's Piano Concerto no. 2. 2 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris J. Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$12 (students & seniors, \$8) in advance and at the door. 485-2947.

★**"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company.** Every Wednesday-Sunday, January 22-March 13. Anthony Caselli directs Tim Clue and Spike Manton's poignant "Corn Belt comedy." Returning to his native Des Moines after the death of his father, a writer revisits childhood spots, meets offbeat and possibly dangerous midwesterners, and relives a childhood spent trapped in the back of a station wagon on seemingly endless family vacations. The production is peppered with original songs, commissioned for this play, by the Chicago pop-folk vocal trio Sons of the Never Wrong. 2 p.m., Garage Theater, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Opening night (Jan. 30): \$32.50. After Jan 30: \$22.50 (Wed. & Thurs.), \$27.50 (Sat. & Sun. matinees), \$32.50 (Fri., Sat., & Sun. eves.) in advance and at the door. 433-ROSE.

★**"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season.** Every Thursday through Sunday, January 29-February 29. J. Grant Stokes directs Theresa Rebeck's comedy about a sexy working-class girl with upwardly mobile aspirations and her tangled relationship to her upstairs neighbor, a philosophy professor, engaged to be married, who takes an interest in her improvement and gets her a job in his best friend's law office. Cast: Carla Milarch, David Wolber, Alex Mendiola, and Sarah Nelson. 2 & 7 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets \$27.50 (seniors, \$24) on Fri. & Sat. and \$22.50 (seniors, \$19) on Thurs. & Sun. in advance by reservation and at

For more information call 327.4200 or visit our website at www.aadl.org

world music & dance



The U-M Gamelan Ensemble The Venerable Lake of Honey

Gamelan music is the classical music of Indonesia, a tradition centuries old. The gamelan is an orchestra consisting mostly of tuned bronze kettles and gongs of different sizes; with several dozen players, it is one of the world's largest musical ensembles. The music is structured into cycles, and cycles within cycles, and cycles within cycles within infinite-seeming cycles. Every Westerner should hear some of it at least once, for a certain number will become instantly hooked.

The U-M has its own gamelan, something that few other institutions away from the West Coast can claim; its marvelously evocative name is *Kyai Telaga Madu*, or "The Venerable Lake of Honey," and it was founded here in 1964. The gamelan attracts enthusiastic student players, and when they join forces with the local Indonesian community and with visiting artists from Indonesia, the results are some of the most elaborate artistic creations from a non-Western culture available in our town. Only rarely can Ann Arborites attend a Chinese opera, or a Japanese Noh drama, or even a concert by a master of

one of the Arabic world's profound classical musical traditions. But the U-M Gamelan Ensemble mounts full-scale music and dance performances regularly, and the next one is coming up, free of charge, on Sunday, February 1, in newly vibrant Hill Auditorium.

Different islands in the vast Indonesian archipelago have their own individual forms of the music, and their own uses for it. The gamelan plays by itself, accompanies shadow-puppet dramas, and has entered into fusions with modern popular styles. Everywhere, however, it accompanies dance. This year's concert is a dance performance of the Indian epic the *Ramayana*, which came to Indonesia over 1,000 years ago and was absorbed into the region's ceaselessly syncretizing culture. The *Ramayana* tells the story of the renowned Prince Rama, whose beautiful consort Sinta is abducted by a ten-headed demon king. With the aid of an army of supernatural monkeys, Rama and his brother cross to the demon's island kingdom to rescue Sinta. The story has served as the basis for dance dramas and shadow-puppet players, and nowadays there are even *Ramayana* comic books.

Indeed, one of the most fascinating aspects of classical Indonesian music and dance is the extent to which they are live traditions. This new production is the creation of dancer-musician Wasi Bantolo, who teaches at Sekolah Tinggi Seni Indonesia, the foremost conservatory on the Indonesian island of Java. His wife, Olivia Retno Widyastuti, a well-known classical Javanese dancer, will perform leading roles, and more than thirty other dancers are featured. The production showcases basic classical Javanese dance movements, contemporary styles, and moves borrowed from the Indonesian martial art of *pencak silat*. This new version, say the presenters, uses the traditional story "to explore crucial contemporary issues of preservation of the environment and the quest for peace in a time of global conflict."

Serious as that may sound, the concert is ideal for children and families; kids take instantly to the spectacular costumes and movements of Indonesian dancers and to the array of unusually shaped and intricately carved instruments. This should be a fascinating experience for anyone, and it's an event we're lucky to have.

—James M. Manheim

the door. Half-price student rush tickets available 1 hour before showtime. Jan. 29 preview performance is whatever you can afford to pay. For reservations, call 663-0681; to charge by phone, call 663-0696.

***Ann Arbor-Motown Hash House Harriers.** Every Sunday & occasional Mondays. The local chapter of an unorthodox running club for people who like to make a game of running. Each runner's task is to follow a trail designed to be confusing. The usual result is that the lead (i.e., fastest) runners run the longest distance, so that runners of varying abilities complete the course in nearly the same time. Each run includes at least one pit stop (with beer & pop hidden along the way) and is followed by a trip to a nearby restaurant. 3 p.m. (Sun.) & 6:30 p.m. (Mon.), location TBA. Free. Weekly locations available at my.voyager.net/~tashjian.

Japanese Tea Ceremony: U-M Museum of Art. Tea ceremony practitioners enact a traditional Japanese tea ceremony (25 minutes) in the museum's tea-house, followed by a discussion of the ritual's symbolism. This month's ceremony, enacted in the Sekishu style, is "A Fallen Camellia Encased in Ice." Preceded at 2 p.m. by *shakuhachi* (Japanese flute) music performed by Michael Gould. Arrive early for a seat. 3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. \$3 suggested donation. 763-UMMA.

***"Late in the Day Winter Hike": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** Hike led by WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner, who notes, "Winter twilight has a special quality about it." 4 p.m., meet at Park Lyndon North, North Territorial Rd. (15 miles west of US-23). Free. 971-6337.

***"The Ramayana": U-M Gamelan Ensemble (U-M School of Music).** See review, above. Renowned Indonesian choreographer Wasi Bantolo's spectacular dance adaptation, set to his original gamelan score, of India's 2,300-year-old epic poem about the life of Prince Rama. After marrying the king's daughter, Rama is removed from the line of succession by a snake-in-the-grass. Banished to the forest, he enlists an army of monkeys in a fight against the demon king who sneaks off with his wife. Bantolo and his wife, the celebrated classical Javanese dancer Olivia Widyastuti, are joined by 33 other local professional and amateur dancers, in glittering, ornate Indonesian dress, who are drawn from the community and from U-M students and faculty. The gamelan's instruments, which the U-M snagged for \$2,000 when the Indonesian booth at the 1964 World's Fair went broke, are an assembly of 50 bronze gongs, flutes, metallophones, drums, strings, and a xylophone. The music is a lush, intricate concatenation of nonharmonic melodies built on cycles marked by the largest gong and subdivided by the other instruments, producing a dreamy, wandering, sweet clangor. 4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

***Ann Arbor Morris Dancers.** Every Sunday. All invited to try an outdoor session of this boisterous, jingly, ancient English ceremonial dance said to have originated a millennium ago as a pantomime of war between Moors and Crusaders. Wear athletic shoes. 6-8 p.m., Gretchen's House Learning Center gym, 2340 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 747-8138.

U-M Ballroom Dancers. Every Sunday. Ballroom

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1 SUNDAY EVENTS continued

dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning cha-cha (Feb. 1 & 8) and hustle (Feb. 15, 22, & 29) lessons and practice. 8-10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. \$3. 763-6984.

"The Snow Queen in Seven Stories": Dreamland Theater. February 1 and 6-8. Naia Venturi directs her original multimedia marionette show, based on stories by Hans Christian Andersen, about the friendship between a girl and a boy. When the boy breaks a mirror cursed by a hobgoblin, he becomes the prisoner of the Snow Queen; the girl sets out to save him. Seating is limited; reservations recommended. 8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. \$7 (kids 12 & under, \$5). 657-2337.

FILMS

Dixboro United Methodist Church 5th Annual Film Festival. "To Kill a Mockingbird" (Robert Mulligan, 1962). Oscar-winning 1962 film adaptation of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel about a lawyer in a small Depression-era southern town who defends a black man accused of raping a white woman. Gregory Peck, Robert Duvall. Followed by a discussion led by Dixboro UMC minister John Ferris. Pop and popcorn available. FREE. 665-5632. DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.), 6:30 p.m. Michigan Theater Foundation. "Girl with a Pearl Earring" (Peter Webber, 2003). February 1-5. Engrossing, masterfully made period drama about the backstory of one of the world's most famous artworks, Dutch artist Jan Vermeer's *Girl with a Pearl Earring*. Scarlett Johansson, Colin Firth, Tom Wilkinson. Based on the Tracy Chevalier novel. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA. "21 Grams" (Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, 2003). February 1-5. A tragic accident links the lives of a bereaved mother, a dying math professor, and a born-again ex-con in this wrenching study of guilt and redemption. Sean Penn, Benicio Del Toro, Naomi Watts. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

2 MONDAY

***Mah-Jongg and Other Games: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** Every Monday & Wednesday. All seniors invited to play mah-jongg, chess, and pool. 9 a.m.-noon, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9350.

***Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** Every Monday. All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. 10-11:30 a.m., West Side Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free (\$45 per semester membership dues). 663-5907.

***Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** Every Monday. Activities begin at 11 a.m. with "Fitness Fun" (\$3), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. The weekly program also includes meetings of the Writing Group (1-3 p.m.) and chess (1-3 p.m.). All invited. 11 a.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

U-M Club of Ann Arbor. February 2, 9, 16, & 23. Weekly lunchtime talks by U-M football coach Lloyd Carr and by guest coaches that include women's golf coach Kathy Teichert (today), men's track coach Ron Warhurst (February 9), baseball coach Rich Maloney (February 16), and women's track coach James Henry (February 23). 11:15 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$9 (seniors, \$8.50). 663-7420.

***Carillon Concert: U-M School of Music.** Every Monday, Thursday, and Friday except February 23, 26, & 27. All invited to watch a carillonneur play the heaviest musical instrument in Washtenaw County, Burton Tower's set of 55 English bells, the largest of which weighs 12 tons. Noon, Burton Tower, Ingalls Mall, 881 North University. Free. 764-0583.

***Bridge Group: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** Every Monday & Friday. All seniors invited to play bridge. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9350.

***Carillon Concert: U-M School of Music.** Every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday except February 23, 24, & 26. All invited to peek in the playing room while a carillonneur plays Lurie Tower's prized set of 60 Dutch bells, which produce a bright, sparkly sound—even the 6-ton leviathan—characteristic of Holland's world-famous carillons. 1:30 p.m., Lurie Tower, 1230 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

***Storytimes for Babies: Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Monday, Wednesday, & Friday (dif-

ferent branch locations). A storytime program for babies under 30 months (accompanied by a parent). The program features simple stories and other activities. 2-3 p.m. (Mon.) & 10-11 a.m. (Wed.), AADL Malletts Creek Branch (3090 E. Eisenhower), & 10:15-11:30 a.m. (Wed.), Northeast Branch, (Plymouth Mall, 2713 Plymouth Rd.). Free. 327-4200.

***"Judo, Jujitsu, & Self-Defense": A.C.E. Academy of Martial Arts.** Local sensei Dan Powers offers beginners a fun, easy introduction to these martial arts and self-defense skills. Wear loose-fitting or gym clothes. 4 p.m. (kids) & 6:30 p.m. (adults), A.C.E. Academy of Martial Arts, 749 Airport Blvd., Suite 3. Free. 645-7069.

***"Hot Topics in International Law": U-M Center for International and Comparative Law.** February 2, 9, & 16. Talks by U-M and visiting legal scholars. Today: U-M visiting law professor Emilio Cardenas on a topic TBA. Also this month: Aberdeen University (Scotland) and European University Institute (Florence) law professor Neil Walker on "The European Constitution: Founding Moment or Fading Momentum?" (February 9). Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (London) codirector Alice Palmer on "A Public Voice in International Trade Disputes: NGO Strategies for the U.S. Challenge to European Regulation of Genetically Modified Organisms in the WTO" (February 16). Refreshments. 4-5:15 p.m., 116 Hutchins Hall, 625 S. State. Free. 764-0535.

***John Burnside: U-M English Department.** Poetry reading by this award-winning Scottish poet and novelist whose brooding, clear-eyed poems, combining a low-key lyricism with semisymbolic images of foxes, owls, snakes, and the like, evoke moonlit yet shadowy Edens. A judge for the Whitbread Prize, which Burnside won, praised his poetry for its "sensory delight" and "rare power to alter one's perception of the world and of language." 5 p.m., D1270 Davidson Hall, 701 Tappan. Free. 615-3710.

***Open Board Gaming Night: The Underworld.** Every Monday. All invited to play any of the board games that the Underworld carries—but you must find your own opponents. 6 p.m.-midnight, Underworld, 1214 South University. Free. 998-0547.

***"Winter Skin and Hair Indulgence": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens Evening Herb Study Group.** Talk by Christina McCahan from Truth Salon in West Bloomfield. 7 p.m., Matthaei, room 125, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 998-7061.

***Huron Valley Toastmasters.** Every Monday. Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. A chance to develop confidence in speaking publicly. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by dinner in the cafeteria. Note: Different Toastmasters chapters meet every Wednesday & Thursday (see listings). 7-9 p.m., U-M Main Hospital cafeteria, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free to visitors. Dues: \$48 a year (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of \$16). 663-1836.

***Mothers & More.** February 2 & 19. Discussion group for moms who have adjusted their careers to spend more time with their children. Today: a group discussion on "Marriage Maintenance 101." Also this month: "Our Favorite Things," a discussion of members' favorite tools, gadgets, and products (February 19). 7-9 p.m. Genesis Foundation (Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church), 2309 Packard. Free. 975-2938.

***Ann Arbor Smocking Group.** Informal "sit 'n' stitch" gathering for those interested in the English art of embroidery known as smocking and in heirloom sewing. All invited. 7:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663-7867.

***Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local cornettist Kiri Tollaksen. Music provided; bring your own music stand. 7:30-9:30 p.m., 929 Barton Dr. (across from Northside School). Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues). 769-1616.

***Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus.** Every Monday. Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Memorial Christian Church, 730 Tappan. Free. 973-6084.

***"The Midnight Disease: The Drive to Write, Writer's Block, and the Creative Brain": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Massachusetts General Hospital neurologist Alice Flaherty reads from her acclaimed new book exploring the interwoven biology and psychology of creative writing. Signing. 8 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

***"A Memorial to Martin Luther King": U-M School of Music.** Michael Haithecock and Ariel Toews conduct the Symphony Band in a concert that features works by local composer Evan Chambers, Percy Grainger, Jan Sweelinck, and others. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. Every Mon-



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New York-based songwriter Ricky Ian Gordon directs local singers in a program of his songs at the Kerrytown Concert House Feb. 6.

day. Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. 9-11:30 p.m., *Conor O'Neill's*, 318 S. Main. \$5 team fee. 665-2968.

"Monday Tango en el Grange": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. Every Monday. All invited to shake off the Monday blues with a few whirls around the dance floor. Recorded music. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. 9-11 p.m., *Pittsfield Grange*, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$5. 327-0642, 502-2986.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Comic Masters Series." February 2, 9, & 26. Conclusion of a 2-month series of classic American comedies. Tonight: *Stardust Memories* (Woody Allen, 1980) is a sour comedy about a film director at a retrospective of his work who mulls over his life. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m. MTF. "Girl with a Pearl Earring" (Peter Webber, 2003). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. "21 Grams" (Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, 2003). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

3 TUESDAY

Party Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Tuesday & Wednesday. All seniors age 55 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. 8:30-11:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 12:45-3:30 p.m. (Wed.). Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. 25¢ contribution for prizes. 769-5911.

***2-Year-Old Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Tuesday-Thursday (different branch locations). Stories, rhymes, and songs for kids ages 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). 9:30-10 a.m., AADL Northeast Branch (Tues.), main library (Wed.), & Malletts Creek Branch (Thurs.). Free. 327-4200 (branches), 327-8301 (main library).

***Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Tuesday & Thursday. Stories and songs for kids ages 3 & up (accompanied by an adult). Note: These storytimes are also offered at the West (Tues., 9:30-10 a.m. & 2-3:30 p.m.), Malletts Creek (Tues., 11-11:30 a.m. & 6:30-7 p.m.), & Northeast (Thurs., 10:30-11 a.m. & 2-2:30 p.m.) branches. 10-10:30 a.m. & 4-4:30 p.m. (Tues.) & 7-7:30 p.m. (Thurs.). AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

"Creations for Kids": Learning Express. February 3, 10, & 24. Craft activities for kids ages 3-5. Today: make a pine cone bird feeder. Also this month: make a valentine (February 10) and make a refrigerator clip or magnet with an image from Dr. Seuss (February 24). 10 a.m., Learning Express, Westgate Shopping Center. \$3 materials fee. Space limited; preregistration required. 997-0707.

***"PowerPoint Basics": Ann Arbor District Library.** February 3 & 4 (different branch locations). Hands-on 2-part introduction using this popular program for multimedia presentations. Note: This program is also offered at the Northeast Branch on February 19 & 20, 9 a.m. 10 a.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Preregistration required. 327-8367.

***Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center.** Every Tuesday. All seniors invited to play mah-

jongg (noon-2 p.m.) and/or join the ABC Quilters (1-3 p.m.) to make quilts for HIV-infected babies. Also, beginning February 10, Lisbeth Fried begins the series "Killing for God: The View from the Bible and the Ancient Near East." 10 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

***Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** Every Tuesday & Thursday. Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids ages 2-9. 11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

***Peace Vigil: Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice.** Every Tuesday. All invited to gather to call for a peaceful response to the events of September 11. Noon-1 p.m., Federal Bldg., Liberty at Fifth Ave. Free. 663-1870.

***Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities.** Every Tuesday except February 24. Talks by various U-M and visiting scholars. Bring a bag lunch. Today: University of East Anglia (Norwich, England) English and American studies professor Denise Riley discusses "Lost Looks: Beauty, Embarrassment, Vanity, Consolation." Also this month: U-M comparative literature professor Tobin Siebers on "Words Stare like a Glass Eye: From Literary to Visual to Disability Studies and Back Again" (February 10), and U-M music professor Evan Chambers on "Composed Songs, Imposed Afflictions: Encoding Effort, Empathy, and Personal History in Music" (February 17). Noon, Institute for the Humanities Common Room, Comerica Bldg. (2nd floor), 350 S. Thayer. Free. 936-3518.

***Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** Every Tuesday except February 24. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Sandwiches and light refreshments provided. Today: Berea (Kentucky) College philosophy and religion professor Jeffrey Richey discusses "Lost and Found: Theories of Law in Early China." Also this month, U-M Chinese arts and cultures professor Martin Powers discusses "Do Chinese Think Differently? Social Psychology and the Historical Record" (February 10), and U-M sociology professor Yu Xie on "Danwei Profitability and Earnings Inequality" (February 17). Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6308.

***Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor.** All women who have recently moved or returned to the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area invited for tea and socializing. 12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 761-1809.

***"Let's Play Chess": Ann Arbor Parks Department.** February 3, 10, & 17. All youths age 8 & older invited to play chess. 1-2:30 p.m., Northside Community Center, 809 Taylor. Free. 994-2722.

***"Douglas as an Emerging Paraprofession: Results from a National Survey": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by U-M health management and policy professor Paula Lantz. 4 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

***Ann Arbor FrontRunners.** Every Tuesday & Thursday. Gay, lesbian, and straight runners invited to choose a distance of 3-5 miles to run with FrontRunners members. 6:30 p.m., Fuller Park at Maiden Lane, 3000 Fuller Rd. Free. 741-1763.

"Money Maladies": Women Business Owners of Southeast Michigan. Northwestern Mutual representative Carol Hoffer discusses ways to get in better financial shape in the new year. Bring business cards. Preceded by networking. All invited. 6:30 p.m., Lake Forest Golf Club, 3110 W. Ellsworth. \$10 (members, free). Preregistration requested. 332-9300.

***Common Thread.** February 3 & 17. All knitters invited to meet members of this local knitting group and exchange tips. 7-9 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

***"A Gathering of Peace": The Free Daist Communion.** Every Tuesday. Prayer vigil for peace featuring the teachings of Adi Da, Western-born guru Heart Master (formerly known as Da Free John). All invited. 7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 741-0432.

***Ann Arbor Area Writer's Group: Arborland Borders.** Every Tuesday. Local writers invited to bring samples of their writing to read and discuss. Observers welcome. 7-9 p.m., Borders art & architecture section, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 449-9394.

***Book Signings: Aunt Agatha's.** 2 mystery writers are on hand to sign copies of their new books, each of them set in the Midwest in the dead of winter. Libby Fischer Hellmann's *An Image of Death* is about a documentary filmmaker in Chicago who receives a surveillance video that includes the murder of a woman, and William Kent Krueger's *Blood Hollow* is about a half-Irish, half-Indian former sheriff who investigates the murder of a teenage girl. 7 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-1114.

***Sweet Adelines County Connection.** Every Tuesday. All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 30-member barbershop harmony chorus.

Ann Arbor Observer

CITY GUIDE RESEARCHER

Researcher needed to update listings in the Ann Arbor Observer City Guide.

Full-time temporary position from April 5 through July 2.

People and phone skills valuable. Persistence and writing skills necessary. Knowledge of city helpful. Accuracy and attention to detail essential.

Send letter of interest and resume by February 16 to Michael Betzold, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor MI 48104 or e-mail michael@aaobserver.com

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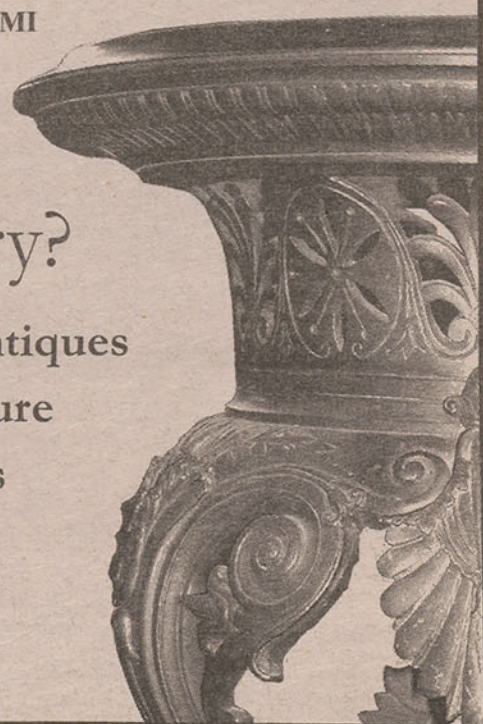
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university of michigan school of art & design calendar of events

FEBRUARY '04

01.12
-
02.20



EXHIBITION: UMBRA(GE): CASTING SHADOWS REDUX
Photographic work by School of Art & Design professor Edward West, selected from the project "Casting Shadows" focusing on the townships, squatter camps and informal settlements of South Africa.

RECEPTION FEBRUARY 4, 4:30-6:00PM

UM Institute for the Humanities
0540 Rackham Building
915 E. Washington, Ann Arbor, MI 48109
M-F 8am-5pm, closed Tues 12-2pm
& Wed 11am-1pm

01.16
-
02.20



EXHIBITION: PASSION
This comprehensive exhibition features work by Master of Fine Arts degree candidates from the School of Art & Design.

Warren Robbins Gallery
Art & Architecture Bldg. Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

02.05



LECTURE: FIONA RABY
Currently a partner in the design practice Dunne & Raby, Fiona Raby also led the Royal College of Art's Critical Design Unit with industrial designer Anthony Dunne. Projects include: *Weeds, Aliens and Other Stories*, a collection of psychological furniture for home and garden; and their recent book *Design Noir: The Secret Life of Electronic Objects*.

Michigan Theatre
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor MI 48104

LECTURE 5:00PM ADMISSION FREE

02.12



LECTURE: THE ART GUYS
For centuries, jesters have provoked society into reexamining its values and assumptions. The Art Guys are contemporary court jesters, and art is their chosen milieu. From Houston, Texas, the Art Guys work in a variety of media including sculpture, performance, video, sound and macramé.

Michigan Theatre
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor MI 48104

LECTURE 5:00PM ADMISSION FREE

02.13
-
03.07



EXHIBITION: FUSION
Curated by the School of Art & Design Arts Student League, this group show includes work in a range of media from students in the Art Students League, American Institute of Graphic Arts, and the Industrial Design Society of America.

RECEPTION FEBRUARY 13, 6:00-9:00PM

Work 306 S. State Street
Tu/W/Th 12-7pm F/Sa 12am-8pm
Su 12-5pm, closed Mondays

02.13
-
3.13



EXHIBITION: PERCEPTION OF THE EXTREME UNSEEN: VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF SUBATOMIC PARTICLE ENERGY AND MATTER
Recent work by School of Art & Design Associate Professor Jan-Henrik Anderson aimed at lifting the veil on the optically impossible task of visually observing subatomic particles such as quarks, leptons and bosons, by translating their properties and behavior into a coherent visual three-dimensional language. In collaboration with physics Professors Gordon Kane and David Gerdes and School of Art & Design Professors Sherri Smith and Dennis Miller.

RECEPTION FEBRUARY 13, 6:00-9:00PM

Jean Paul Slusser Gallery
Art & Architecture Building
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm,
Saturday 11am - 4pm
Closed Sundays and Major Holidays

02.17

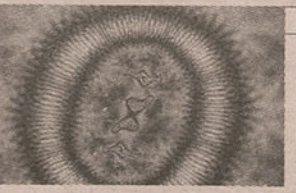


SCREENING: DIGITAL NEW SCHOOL
Showcasing experimental motion pictures created using digital technologies, programmed by School of Art & Design faculty Leslie Raymond for last year's Ann Arbor Film Festival and presented now as a warm-up for this year's Festival. Raymond will introduce the program and talk about the role it played in opening the Festival competition to include video & digital formats for the first time in its 42 years <http://www.umich.edu/~elray/dns/diginooskoo.html>

SCREENING 7:30 PM ADMISSION FREE

Media Union Video Studio
2281 Bonisteel Blvd.
UM North Campus

02.20
-
03.17



EXHIBITION: DIGITAL CANVAS
An exhibition of Michigan-area video projection artists: Jim Ryan & Deon Foster (Lansing), Julie Meitz (Detroit), Jason Engling & Joe Bauer (Ann Arbor), Jon Hudson (Detroit), and VJ Future Worker Girl (Ann Arbor), consisting of large-scale still images from live projected performances, curated by School of Art & Design faculty Leslie Raymond.

RECEPTION FEBRUARY 20, 6:30-9:00PM

Ann Arbor Art Center
117 W. Liberty, Ann Arbor, MI 48104



Sign language interpreter provided upon advance request for lectures. Call 734.763.4417.
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<http://www.art-design.umich.edu>

3 TUESDAY EVENTS continued

7-10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$18 monthly dues for those who join). 995-4110.

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. February 3, 10, 17, & 24. Historical and traditional English dances. Today: Alisa Dodson calls to live music by pianist David West and fiddler Donna Baird. Also this month: callers Shirley Harden, Bronwen Gates, and Torbin Zimmerman with music by pianist Debbie Jackson and fiddler Brad Battey (February 10), callers Greg Meisner and Arlene Kindel with music by Baird and West (February 17), and callers Ray Bantle and Marty Wilson with music by Jackson, fiddler Anne Ogren, and oboist Martha Stokely (February 24). Partners, previous experience not necessary. Comfortable nonslip walking shoes recommended. 7 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. \$6. 422-1170.

Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA. Every Tuesday. All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barber-shop harmony chorus. 7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance for instructions. For information, call Keith Opal at 741-1506.

"Son of Cinema Slam": Michigan Theater Foundation. A lively, entertaining 2-hour smorgasbord of films made by Ann Arborites, from VHS home movies to 35 mm films by independent filmmakers. All invited to submit a film. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. \$4. 668-8480.

Track Workout: Ann Arbor Track Club. Every Tuesday. Runners (and walkers) of all ages and abilities welcome. Now in their 27th year, the Track Club's workouts are a popular means for runners to train and be timed at various distances. 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M indoor track, S. State at Hoover. U-M pass (\$5 per day) required. 663-9740.

Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club. Every Tuesday & Saturday. All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. 7:30-9:30 p.m. (Tues.) & 1-3 p.m. (Sat.), location TBA. Free. 913-5831.

"Teens Using Drugs: What to Know and What to Do": Dawn Farm. February 3 & 10. 2-part talk by local social worker Ron Harrison. Today: "What to Know." Also this month: "What to Do" (February 10). Refreshments, literature. 7:30-9 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, classroom EC4, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. 973-7892.

Washtenaw Ski Touring Club. February 3 & 17. Slide-illustrated talk by club member Ed Steinman on his trip to Churchill, Manitoba. Also this month: a skiing-related video (February 17). 7:30 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House. Free. 665-0248.

"A Guide to the Bodhisattva Way of Life": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. Every Tuesday. Talk by Rimpoche Nawang Gehlek, an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. Occasionally, the talk is given by Gehlek's longtime student Aura Glaser or a visiting speaker. 7:30 p.m., Jewel Heart Buddhist Center, 207 E. Washington. Free, but donations are accepted. 994-3387.

Ann Arbor Camera Club. February 3 & 17. Tonight: slide-illustrated talk by local professional nature photographer Bob Doom on "The Meadows of Waterloo." Also this month: speaker and topic TBA, and club members show their recent prints on the theme of "Human Emotion" (February 17). 7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School, room 310, 1655 Newport Rd. at Sunset. Free. 663-3763, 665-6597.

"Solid State Lighting; or, The Light That Lasts Thirty Years": U-M Science Research Club. Talk by Mike Ayers of the Biomass Resource Group (East Lansing). 7:30-10 p.m., G-390 Dental Bldg., 1011 North University. (Entrance is from 3rd level of the Fletcher St. parking structure.) Free. 761-4320.

Spanish Readers Group: Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *El Alquimista Impaciente (The Impatient Alchemist)*, Spanish novelist Lorenzo Silva's noirish murder mystery set in contemporary Madrid. 7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

German Speakers' Round Table. Every Tuesday. All German speakers invited for conversation. 8 p.m., Pelagos Taverna, 303 Detroit St. Free admission. 665-2931.

Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. Reading by a featured poet TBA. Also, open mike readings, which usually draw an engaging variety of accomplished poets and entertaining monologists in verse, and a "poetry slam," in which poets read one of their works in each round of a tournament-style competition for a \$10 prize and the heady adrenaline rush that accompanies victory. 8-11 p.m., Club Heidelberg (above the Hei-

delberg restaurant), 215 N. Main. \$5. For information, call Larry Francis at 426-3451.

Max Barry: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This Australian novelist, author of the cult hit *Syrup*, reads from *Jennifer Government*, his brashly satiric new novel about a free-market paradise in which the world is run by multinationals, taxes are illegal, employees take the last names of the companies they work for, the police and the NRA are publicly traded security firms, and the U.S. government may investigate crimes only if it can bill a citizen directly. Signing. 8 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

Ann Arbor Ballroom Dancers. Every Tuesday. Ballroom dancing to live music by Detroit-area bands. Includes fox-trots, waltzes, Latin and swing dancing, and more. Singles and couples welcome. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a dance class (\$4). Dress code observed. 8:15-10:45 p.m., Grotto Club of Ann Arbor, 2070 W. Stadium. \$6 (members, \$5). (517) 787-6367, (517) 592-5771.

"Tuesday Tickler": The Heidelberg Club Above. Every Tuesday. Short sets by a variety of area and regional stand-up comics. If you'd like to perform, call emcee Timmy P at 369-2381 at least 5 days in advance. 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m., Club Above (3rd floor of the Heidelberg), 215 N. Main. \$5 at the door only. 663-5578.

Trivia Quiz: The Arena Sports Grille and Bar. Every Tuesday. See review, p. 81. All invited to try a wide-ranging trivia quiz for such prizes as T-shirts and hats. Bonus points awarded for "stupid human tricks" like drinking beer upside down, dancing to Michael Jackson songs, or inserting an entire fist into your mouth. 10 p.m., The Arena, 203 E. Washington. Free. 222-9999.

FILMS

MTF. "Girl with a Pearl Earring" (Peter Webber, 2003). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. **"21 Grams"** (Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, 2003). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. **Underworld.** "Anime Night." Every Tuesday. Free DVD showings of feature-length Japanese anime films (or multiple episodes from an anime series) chosen each night by the audience. No admission after 9:30 p.m. Japanese subtitles. FREE. 998-0547. The Underworld (1202 South University), 9-11 p.m.

4 WEDNESDAY

Wednesday Winter Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Wednesday. The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. 10 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 994-5908 & 663-4498 (today's ride), 913-9851 (general information).

Children's Storytime: Arborland Borders. Every Wednesday. Borders staffers read a selection of kids books, sing songs, and help kids make a take-home craft about "Love for Our Families" (today), "Happy Valentines" (February 11), "Caring for Friends" (February 18), and "Sharing with Friends" (February 25). 11 a.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

Northwest Seniors Band: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center. Every Wednesday. All seniors invited to bring their instruments and sit in with the band. Noon-2 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9350.

Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Center for Russian and East European Studies. Every Wednesday except February 25. Bring a bag lunch. Today: New York University history and Hellenic studies professor Katherine Fleming discusses "The Center of Europe? Greece, the Balkans, and European History." Also this month: U-M visiting history professor Gerard Libaridian on "The Caucasus in Crisis: Conflicts and Confrontations in Armenia" (February 11) and U-M sociology professor Genevieve Zubrzycki on "The Aesthetics of Nationalism Mobilization: The War of the Crosses at Auschwitz" (February 18). Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0351.

Wednesday Cooking Session: Kitchen Port. February 4, 11, 18, & 25. Today: Nicola's Bakehouse's Nicola Campbell demonstrates how to create an elegant "English Tea Table" complete with dainty sandwiches and sweets. Also this month: Ann Arbor News food columnist Marge Biancke prepares a quesadilla and other "Traditional Foods of New Mexico" (February 11), area cookbook author Ying Stoller makes "Classic Chinese Soups" (February 18), and the Seasonal Baker's Joan Mathison prepares a "Spa in Your Kitchen" (February 25). Noon, Kitchen Port (Kerrytown). \$20 (Feb. 4), \$10 (Feb. 11 & 18), & \$25 (Feb. 25) includes coffee, taste samples, & recipes. Preregistration requested. 665-9188.

"Art Videos": U-M Museum of Art. February 4, 11, 18, & 25. This month's screenings complement the museum's current Indian art exhibit. Today: An-

cient India frames the exhibit in its historical context. Also this month: *Khandan: The Musical Heritage for Shujaat Khan* examines the lineage of the Khandani musicians (February 11), *Photo-Wallahs: An Encounter with Photography in Mussoorie, a North Indian Hill Station* focuses on photo tourists in the Himalayas (February 18), and *Freedom Now* details how India became a democracy (February 25). 12:10 p.m., UMMA audiovisual room, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763-UMMA.

★**Chess Group: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** Every Wednesday. All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9350.

★**Bridge: Jewish Community Center.** Every Wednesday. Bridge players of all levels of ability invited. 1-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

Open House: U-M Detroit Observatory. February 4 & 18. Docent-guided tour of the photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope to rotate the telescope dome. 1-4 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. \$5 suggested donation. 763-2230.

★**Afternoon Group Entertainment: Ann Arbor Parks Department.** Every Wednesday & Saturday except February 25. All adults invited to play dominoes, chess, checkers, cards, board games, and more. 1:30-3 p.m. (Wed.) & 1-2 p.m. (Sat.), Northside Community Center (809 Taylor) & Bryant Community Center (3 W. Eden Ct. off Champagne from Stone School Rd., just north of Ellsworth). Free. 994-2722.

★**"Modernity Without Secularization: 'Masorti'im' (Traditionalists) in Israel": U-M Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk by Bar-Ilan University political studies professor Yaacov Yadgar. 4 p.m., Haven Hall Eldersveld Room, 505 S. State. Free. 763-9047.

★**Runner's Clinic: Michigan Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Center.** Runners of all ability levels invited to chat with and quiz orthopedic surgeon John Anderson, physical therapist Pete Kitto, podiatrist Brad Seel, Tortoise & Hare reps Matt and Monica Holappa, and a rep from Koch's Orthotics. Bring running shoes, shorts, and questions about any aspect of running. 5 p.m., MSMOC, Arbor Park Office Center, 4972B W. Clark Rd. (southwest side of the Clark & Golfside intersection), Ypsilanti. Free. 434-3020.

★**"Showdown in Seattle: Five Days that Shook the World Trade Organization": U-M Ecumenical Center.** Screening of this video examining the protests surrounding the 1999 WTO meeting. Followed by discussion. Also, a vegetarian dinner of "homemade soup and good bread." 5:30 p.m., Ecumenical Center, 921 Church St. Donation. 662-5529.

★**Scrabble Night: Ann Arbor Parks Department.** February 4, 11, & 18. All invited to play this popular word game. 6-8 p.m., Northside Community Center, 809 Taylor. Free. 994-2722.

★**Ann Arbor Toastmasters Club.** Every Wednesday. Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. Note: Different Toastmasters chapters meet every Monday & Thursday (see listings). 6:15-7:45 p.m., 102 Krieger Hall, Concordia University, 4090 Geddes Rd. Free to visitors. Dues: \$24 semiannually. 995-7351.

★**Transcendental Meditation Introductory Session: Maharishi Vedic School.** Every Wednesday. Ann Arbor TM director Carol Lubetkin introduces this simple, natural meditation technique for creativity, happiness, and fulfillment. 7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 996-8686.

★**Westside Writers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join group members to read and discuss excerpts of each other's work (bring some of your own). 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 971-5763.

★**Huron Valley Model Builders.** All invited to join a show-and-tell discussion. Bring your models built from scratch or from kits, including cars, tanks, boats, airplanes, spacecraft, figures, and more. 7 p.m., Lakeview Mobile Home Park clubhouse, 9910 Geraldine, Ypsilanti Twp. (take I-94 to Huron St. exit and head south, turn left on Textile, turn right on Bunton). Free. 481-1044.

★**"Is Israeli-Palestinian Peace Still Possible?": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies.** Panel discussion with Bir Zeit University political science professor Khalil Shikaki, Tel Aviv University political science professor Zeev Maoz, Hebrew University political science professor Gabriel Sheffer, University of Maryland visiting scholar Naomi Sheffer, and Bir Zeit University sociology professor Sharif Kanaana. 7-9 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 764-0350.

★**"Affirmative Action and Racial Preference: A Debate": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M philosophy professor Carl Cohen and Notre Dame philosophy professor James Sterba continue the spirited debate first presented in this book they coauthored. In conjunction with the 2004 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti

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The University of Michigan

museum of art

family event

Sunday, February 15, 1-5 pm, Museum Apse and galleries

3 pm Performance
Madhavi Marcia Mai and the Sadhana Studio student dancers
perform classical Indian dance to live musical accompaniment.
The performance is free, but seating is limited.

1 to 5 pm
Before and after the performance, visitors are invited to explore
the exhibition *Divine Encounters, Earthly Pleasures: Twenty Centuries
of Indian Art* and take part in a hands-on art project.

Funding for UMMA 2004 family programming provided by the Michigan Council
for Arts and Cultural Affairs, Target Stores, and the Friends of the Museum of Art.



525 South State Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan 734.763.UMMA
Tuesday-Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Thursday, 10 am to 9 pm; Sunday, noon to 5 pm
www.umma.umich.edu

detail of Krishna Massaging the Feet of Radha, Indian, Punjab Hills, Mankot School, ca. 1730, ink, opaque watercolor, gold,
and beetle thorax casings on paper, UMMA 1979/1.160



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February



Michigan Chamber Players

Faculty Artists of the University of Michigan School of Music

Suren Bagratuni cello
Richard Beene bassoon
Yehonatan Berick violin
Loretta Bybee mezzo-soprano
Timothy Cheek piano
Sören Hermansson french horn
Andrew Jennings violin
Martin Katz piano
Diana Lungu violin
Fred Ormand clarinet
Yizhak Schotten viola
Martha Sheil soprano
Stephen Shippy violin
Kathryn Votapek viola

Sun 2/8 6 pm
Rackham Auditorium

Each year, UMS hosts the Michigan Chamber Players for two free performances. These concerts showcase the extraordinary talents of faculty members of the University of Michigan School of Music and are held at Rackham Auditorium on the U-M campus.

PROGRAM

Brahms Viola Songs, Op. 91
Janáček Concertino
Schubert "Auf de Strom" D. 943
Brahms Quintet for Strings, Op. 111 in G Major

Hilary Hahn violin


Natalie Zhu piano

Thu 2/12 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

Born in 1979, Hilary Hahn has astonished critics and audiences everywhere with her youthful exuberance and passion for performing. A Grammy winner (she's already recorded five CDs) who was also named "America's Best Young Classical Musician" by *Time*, she is an irresistible presence, a captivating blend of concentration, freshness, poise, and musical depth.

PROGRAM

Mozart Violin Sonata in G Major, K. 301 (1778)
Bach Partita No. 2 in d minor, BWV 1004 (1720)
Bloch Violin Sonata No. 1
Mozart Violin Sonata in A Major, K. 526 (1787)


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Forest Health Services presents the 125th Annual Choral Union Series.

Valentine's Day Concert! Canadian Brass

Sat 2/14 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

Love is in the air when the Canadian Brass returns to Ann Arbor for a special Valentine's Day Concert. With their trademark tuxedos and sneakers, and a repertoire encompassing everything from Bach and Wagner to Sousa and Ellington, the Canadian Brass combines classic virtuosity and high-spirited entertainment, served up with lively dialogue and theatrical effects. Don't miss this endlessly enjoyable evening!

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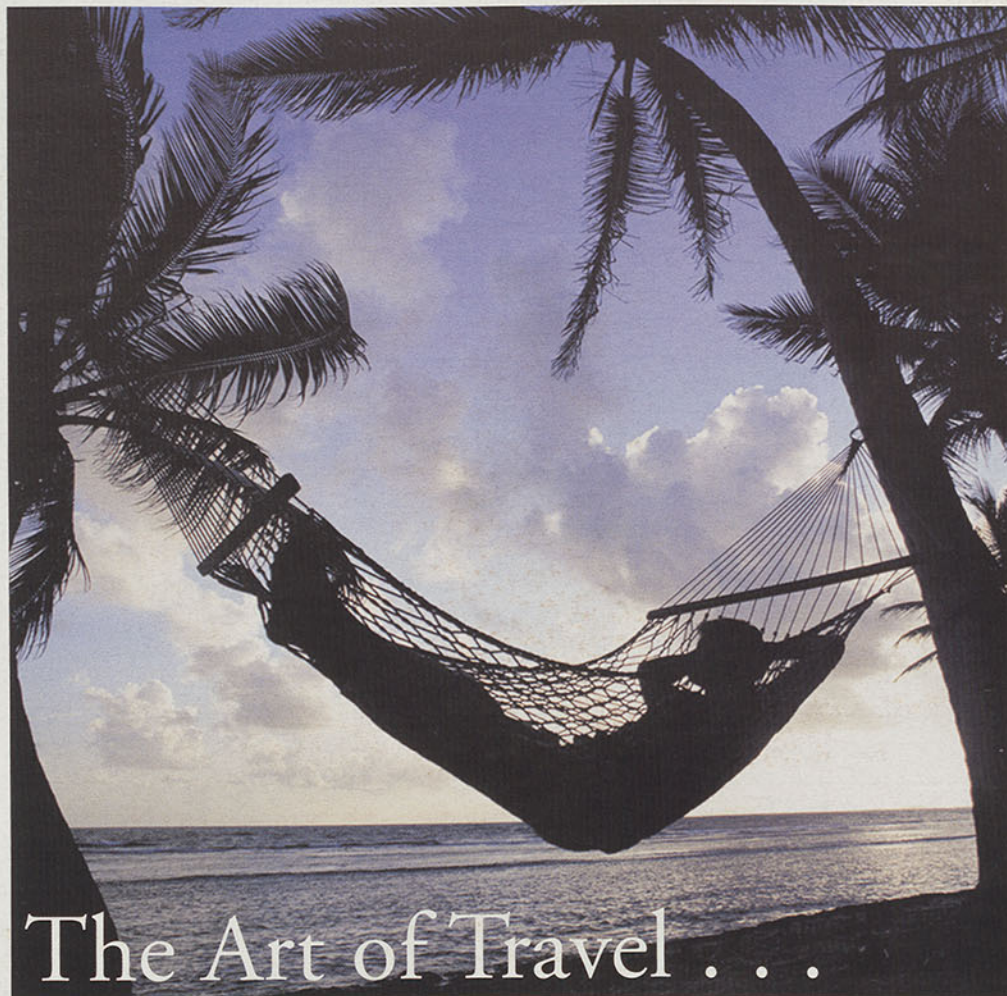
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Inside

- Teamwork Makes the Difference at Conlin Travel
- Client Corner:
The Travel Agent Advantage



COVER PHOTO COURTESY OF ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL

The Art of Travel . . .

There's travel and then there's the "art of travel." As an experienced traveler, you well know that the two are worlds apart. The key to a successful vacation is smart, savvy planning. However, once you have decided where you want to go, how you want to get there, and when you want to go – our role is enhanced and we become not only your travel planner, but your travel partner as well.

It may seem that there are almost as many types of vacations from which to choose as destinations to visit. We'll help you sort through all the options. Do you want a land vacation? An escorted tour? A packaged vacation? Do you want your next vacation to be customized from A to Z? Do you want to cruise? Take a barge along a European waterway? Experience the beauty of Ireland or Italy? Visit Alaska – our

Last Frontier? Maybe you just need to get away to a nearby resort. We'll work with you to make sure your vacation dreams come true. We are destination specialists, cruise specialists, and we know whom to call and what to do to create an unparalleled vacation experience that you will never forget. Please give us a call or stop by. And remember: On land or by sea – wherever you want to go – we can get you there!



**Travel
Services**
Representative

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The Freedom Of Choice

We don't have to tell you that we've evolved into independent, freethinking, experience oriented vacationers who want flexibility in our vacation and much more than a passing glimpse of new places and cultures. We are continually striving to make our vacations a unique and enriching experience – regardless of whether we're visiting a classic tourist attraction or an off-the-beaten-path destination.

Land vacations can be arranged as escorted tours, package travel, independent, and special interest/adventure. These four categories are the most popular.

ESCORTED TOURS – Today's escorted tours range from a Zodiac pontoon dinghy bounding over Arctic waves in search of a rare bird colony to having an expert on the fall of communism speak during an intimate dinner in Prague. An escorted tour includes a set itinerary, group travel (generally by motorcoach, but sometimes by ship or train), and a tour director to coordinate, guide, and manage your trip. The most significant change in escorted tours has been the increased amount of "free" time actually built into the itinerary as well as the opportunity for learning.

PACKAGE TRAVEL – Similar to escorted tours, packages tend to have fixed itineraries, with ground transportation and hotels booked in advance. But like independent travel, you're free to do as you please at your destination, yet still have the convenience and security of booking through one of our favorite tour operators.

INDEPENDENT TRAVEL – Known as an "FIT" in the industry, this fully independent travel is just that – independent. By having us book your vacation in modular components, you get the widest range of options. For example, we can arrange a fly/drive vacation. With this option, we can arrange your air, car rental, and hotel through our preferred partners. Then you can travel the country at your own pace.



Today's special interest/adventure travel vacations can take you to the top of the world, or to the depths of the seas!

SPECIAL INTEREST/ADVENTURE TRAVEL – By far the biggest trend in travel today is special interest/adventure travel, where you may choose to walk, hike, cycle, golf, or cook your way through a country. This type of vacation can take you to the far corners of our globe or pique your interest in a familiar, closer-to-home destination. We can arrange for you to travel with a group or go it alone. Land vacations . . . freedom of choice!

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DESTINATION: IRELAND!

BRENDAN WORLDWIDE VACATIONS. Brendan offers a variety of outstanding vacations throughout the world, but there are two itineraries we especially want to highlight: *Ireland at Leisure* and *Glimpse of Ireland*.

The *Ireland at Leisure* is a 10-day escorted tour that begins/ends in Dublin and is a relaxing way to see all of Ireland's hidden treasures at a leisurely pace. The trip is designed to allow you ample time to explore, shop, and experience this marvelous country on your own. Highlights include tours to the 18th-century Powerscourt Gardens, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity



College Library, Rock of Cashel, Blarney Castle, Ring of Kerry, Cliffs of Moher, a day trip to Aran Islands, as well as time to explore Dublin and other popular sites. This vacation includes hotel accommodations, nine full Irish breakfasts, four three-course dinners, a special welcome dinner, live entertainment at select venues, select sightseeing, hotel taxes and gratuities, and more. Pricing is from \$1,378 per person, double occupancy, land only.

The second vacation we recommend you consider is *Glimpse of Ireland*. This interesting 8-day package provides an excellent travel value. The trip also begins/ends in Dublin and features an itinerary that showcases Ireland's treasures – from wooded glens to historic abbeys and idyllic farms to bustling cities. In addition to time to experience Dublin, you will have the opportunity to visit such sites as St. Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity College Library, Carigglass Manor or Strokestown Park House, Cistercian Abbey, Blarney Castle, Cliffs of Moher, Jameson Distillery and Heritage Centre, the Waterford Crystal Factory, and the opportunity to take a walking tour of Waterford. Your vacation includes hotel accommodations, seven full Irish breakfasts, five three-course dinners, select sightseeing, hotel taxes and gratuities, and more. This vacation is offered from \$848 per person, double occupancy, land only. Roundtrip air can easily be added on both of these trips.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



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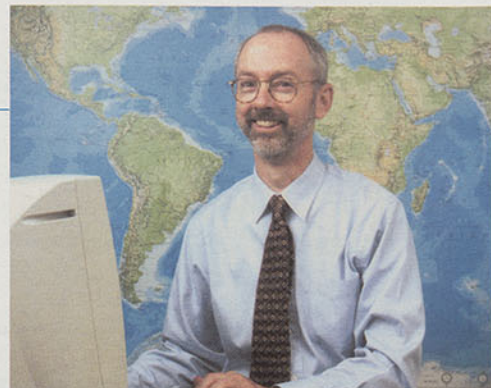
Recognized as Ann Arbor's travel specialists for nearly 50 years, Conlin Travel has built its reputation by providing unparalleled service to our clients — both business and pleasure travelers. The key to this level of service is the quality of agents you'll find whenever you call or visit.

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At Conlin Travel we work as a team, combining the expertise of all our agents to make sure each client is provided the best information and given the best service. By pooling the resources of our seasoned specialists, you have access to unusual intelligence and value in planning your trip. So no matter who you are working with directly, you know you've got all these travel professionals — plus a full support staff — working for you.

Bill Mitchell

Bill Mitchell has been helping people plan vacations at Conlin Travel for 18 years. His specialty is Europe with particular expertise in France. His clients benefit from his intimate knowledge of Venice, Florence, and Rome. Bill has also planned many Alaskan cruises and enjoys helping people discover exotic getaways.



Nanette Rudd

Nanette Rudd is a history buff and freely shares with her clients her knowledge gained from 19 years of travel planning, and her own journeys to fascinating locales. She is well-versed in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. A true world traveler, Nanette counts Australia as a favorite destination.



Margie Likert

Margie Likert began in the travel industry in 1957 and brings a wealth of experience to her clients. She especially enjoys planning trips to Malaysia, Thailand, and China, and cruises to exotic regions around the globe. Some of her favorite destinations include Hawaii and Australia, and she also has an extensive background in planning travel for those visiting Europe.



AGENT PHOTOS COURTESY OF CONLIN TRAVEL



Sandy Kulenkamp

Sandy Kulenkamp has been with Conlin Travel for over 12 years and has earned the enviable reputation as a "cruise expert." But along with the world's waterways, she is also well-versed in European travel, as well as Asia. She enjoys setting up trips to "all parts of the world," including Russia, which she has visited personally.

Laura Clausen

Laura Clausen has spent 22 years perfecting the art of travel planning. Scotland is one of her favorite travel destinations, but she also enjoys arranging trips to the African continent and to locations throughout the Indian Ocean. She has firsthand knowledge of Peru and China and also has extensive experience with European travel.



Kenna Kramer

Kenna Kramer is a vital resource when planning a visit to popular vacation spots like Disney World or Las Vegas, or when selecting the perfect honeymoon to Hawaii, or the Caribbean. Her knowledge of the Hawaiian Islands and Caribbean ports-of-call will make these exotic destinations familiar and inviting. As a graduate of the College of Disney Knowledge, she can bring the world's most popular theme park and all of Orlando's attractions to life for children of all ages.



Whether your schedule calls for an extended safari or a brief escape from the routine, we've got the experience to help you get the most from your vacation. By plane, train, automobile or cruise ship, we'll show you how to get there and what to see, and we'll make planning every detail of your trip a pleasure. Anyone can make reservations. We make dreams come true.



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CLIENT CORNER

The Travel Agent Advantage

For many years, Conlin Travel has helped my family with our vacation planning. In 1975, we took our first Conlin trip to Greece. Following that, a perfectly lovely University of Michigan Alumni trip to Ireland. Followed next by Alaska.

My grown children and grandchildren live far away, so every year we have a reunion at some wonderful spot. Conlin has helped us with two cruises, two Bermuda trips, a Grand Tetons trip, Whistler, The Homestead Inn in West Virginia, and many more. My family agrees that all our trips have been perfect. I highly recommend Conlin for their thoughtful planning and attention to detail.

Personally I have also taken many conducted tours and have confirmed them all through Conlin Travel. The security of working with my travel agent assures me of a great trip, but if something should occur, I know they are there to be my advocate.

*Jackie Lewis
Ann Arbor, Michigan*



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACKIE LEWIS

Jackie Lewis and granddaughter, Grace, look forward to many more exciting family gatherings and the fantastic memories each new destination brings, for years to come.

Galveston. Last September, the 2,052-guest *Elation* began sailing from this popular port on the Gulf of Mexico. These 7-day western Caribbean cruises are highlighted with a special golf program that includes professional instruction both aboard ship and during golf excursions. In port, you'll have the opportunity to play the course at the Cozumel Country Club and in Belize at the Caye Chapel Golf Resort. Additionally, two new Galveston City Tours have been added: *Galveston Romance and History Tour* and *Trains, Boats, and Planes*. Both tours enhance the city's fine reputation for history, culture, and charm. In addition to these 7-day voyages, the *Celebration* continues with its popular 4- and 5-day cruises.

New Orleans. This fall, the 2,052-passenger *Sensation* will replace the 1,452-guest *Holiday* and expand capacity by over 40%. The *Sensation* will offer 4- and 5-day cruises to Cozumel and add either Costa Maya or Calica on the 5-day sailings. A comprehensive golf program (both onboard and during golf excursions) will be offered. In addition, the magnificent *Carnival Conquest* will continue sailing the popular 7-day western Caribbean itinerary. Please call us for information about these "closer to home" sailings as well as other popular itineraries available from Carnival.

TRAVELWISE . . . TIPS, TRENDS & UPDATES

HOLLAND AMERICA LINE. Just announced is Holland America's new quarter-billion-dollar initiative called *Signature of Excellence*. The program is designed to enhance five main components of your cruise: Dining, accommodations, services, activities, and destinations. We'll highlight some of the enhancements you can expect to see from one of our favorite cruise lines.

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Holland America Line

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Dining – Long recognized for offering some of the most extensive menus at sea, Holland America Line will further differentiate its dining experience with such new additions as The Pinnacle Grill, more personalized service and two additional dining times in the main dining room; expanded Lido dining and services, plus the groundbreaking on a new Culinary Arts Program (sure to appeal to those of us who enjoy fine wines and gourmet food).

Accommodations – Already featuring spacious and beautifully-furnished staterooms, you can look forward to such new amenities as 100% Egyptian cotton bed linens, deluxe terry cloth robes, massage showerheads, lighted magnifying makeup mirrors, and complimentary fresh fruit basket on arrival. All suites will soon have fully stocked mini bars, VCRs or DVD players, and personalized stationery.

Service – Holland America Line will enhance its already superb service with additional touches such as early embarkation and state-of-the-art Greenhouse Spas, expanded to all ships within the fleet.

Activities – Besides a new Culinary Arts Theater, Exploration and Enrichment programs, an upgraded Club HAL Kids Center and Youth Program will be introduced. As well, the popular lecture series will be expanded to include even more diverse offerings.

Destinations – The program will enhance this component of your cruise experience with more "Medallion Shore Excursions." These one-of-a-kind experiences are available in many ports worldwide and range from exclusive tours of Caribbean estates and photographic safaris in Africa to private helicopter tours over Hong Kong.

Holland America Line sails to every major destination throughout the world. If you are interested in an Alaskan cruise (or cruisetour), now is the time to book. Exceptional savings are available if you book by February 29, 2004. Cruises with special added value are also available on Caribbean and European itineraries as well. We look forward to helping you plan your next cruise.

PRINCESS. Princess Cruises will soon offer you more opportunities than ever before to cruise and explore the warm waters of the Caribbean. And for the absolute best value . . . American Express

and Princess Cruises have teamed up to offer some great savings on summer sailings – available exclusively to our clients. On the grand new *Caribbean Princess*®, for example, rates for a 7-day cruise begin at \$649 and on the *Golden Princess*® from \$549, on select sailings in September. Altogether, we have value-added pricing and special amenities available on 15 sailings from June through late September.

By this fall, Princess will position six of its newest and largest vessels in this region. All in all, that represents a dramatic 75% increase and features the youngest fleet sailing throughout the Caribbean Islands. Offering an impressive 152 departures on 16 unique itineraries with 26 different ports-of-call, you can now select from 7- to 10-day sailings that will include a new port-of-call in Belize and a new home port in Galveston.



Wherever in the world you want to go –
we can get you there.

The 2004-2005 Caribbean season will feature the new *Caribbean Princess*, *Grand Princess*, *Star Princess*, *Golden Princess*, *Dawn Princess*, and *Sun Princess*. In addition to such popular amenities as their signature Personal Choice DiningSM, the new *Caribbean Princess* will feature a poolside movie screen, a new Caribbean-themed alternative restaurant and nearly 900 staterooms with balconies (more than any other vessel sailing in the Caribbean). Princess Cruises sails year round in this region.

GREAT GETAWAYS: WASHINGTON, D.C.

HOTEL WASHINGTON. Our nation's capital is one of the most popular destinations for a springtime vacation, and we recommend the Hotel Washington as a great – and convenient – place to stay. For almost 90 years, this 350-room Washington landmark has offered guests friendly service, and the perfect location, right in the heart of Washington, D.C. You and your family will be just steps from The White House, the Ellipse, Washington Monument, Smithsonian, National Gallery, Ford's Theater, and other popular downtown sights. Instead of having to board sightseeing coaches or take a cab, you can leisurely stroll through the parks and plazas or walk down Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol.

What sets this historic hotel apart from others is its special value-added family packages. For example, a family of four can enjoy accommodations



and complimentary breakfast daily at a family-friendly rate. In fact, rates here are comparable to what you would pay for accommodations on the outskirts of the city. We also recommend – for an elegant evening of dining – that you make reservations to enjoy the hotel's famous rooftop Sky Room Restaurant. Another tip: Be sure and take time to enjoy the Sky Terrace. This "patio in the sky" also offers a spectacular view of Washington's skyline and is the perfect venue for lunch, snacks, or a late-afternoon cocktail. Both the Sky Room and Sky Terrace are open May through October. Please call us now to make reservations.

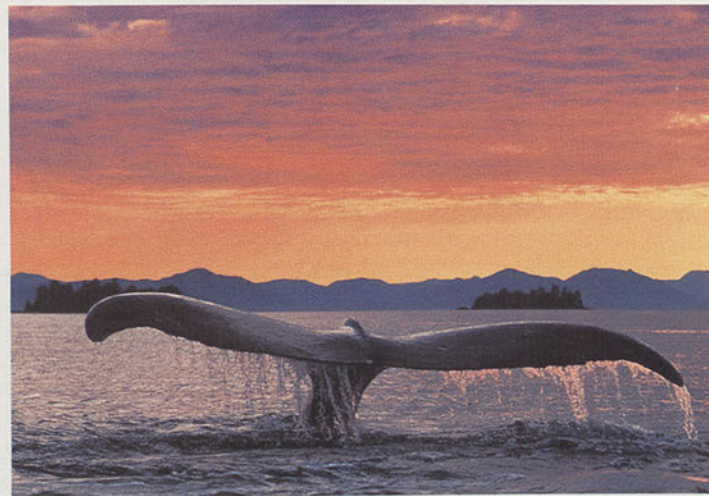
ALASKA BY SEA

What's Cool? Alaska . . .

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More and more of us are finding the best way to experience and fully appreciate this Last Frontier is to combine a cruise with a land vacation – i.e. a cruisetour. Indeed, Alaska is more than a place to visit. It's an adventure. The action-packed outdoors truly offers something for every interest and activity level. One more thought as you plan your Alaska cruisetour . . . to get the most from this vacation, we recommend you have us book your ship accommodations with a private balcony. Please don't wait; call us now for the best accommodations and prices.

CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES. New for 2004, the Carnival *Spirit's* Glacier Route cruises will begin or end in Whittier, instead of Seward. Whittier's closer proximity to Anchorage will not only allow additional time for sightseeing but cuts your travel time to Anchorage in half. Enhancements to the Southbound Glacier Route itinerary include the opportunity to visit Sitka, the one-time capital of Russian America. Each of the Alaska sailings is seven days and the season begins May 19. Amenities onboard include 80% of staterooms with ocean views, and 80% of those accommodations have private balconies. Dining options run the gamut from a 24-hour



Spectacular scenes such as this will be yours to enjoy on your Alaska vacation.

pizzeria to a reservations-only supper club. Outstanding live entertainment, Spa CarnivalSM facilities, Camp Carnival[®] program for children/teens ages 2-15, fun casino, Internet café, exciting shore excursions, onboard enrichment programs, and so much more will make your journey to Alaska a vacation you'll never forget!

PRINCESS CRUISES. Princess Cruises will offer more Inside Passage cruising this year than ever before, and expand the 2004 Gulf of Alaska cruisetour program with "Maximum McKinley." If you prefer the Inside Passage, you can now select from 48 sailings. Departing conveniently from Seattle are their newest and most-amenity filled vessels, *Diamond Princess* and *Sapphire Princess*, as well as *Regal Princess*, sailing from San Francisco. Canadian Rockies Cruisetours can be added to these itineraries sailing from Seattle, and include visits to Banff, Jasper, Calgary, and Kamloops. If you prefer the Gulf of Alaska itinerary, you can select from 4 ships and 42 land tour options, including the exclusive "Maximum McKinley," where guests can select from unique 2- and 3-night stays in Alaska's most popular inland attraction – Denali National Park. There will be 28 "Maximum McKinley" tours offered that feature the Heart of Alaska, and options to enjoy other parts of this Last Frontier such as Kenai Peninsula or Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. Again, the elegant *Coral Princess* and *Island Princess* will sail these Gulf of Alaska itineraries along with the *Sun Princess* and *Dawn Princess*. Outstanding amenities include a new "ScholarShip at Sea" Program (e.g. enrichment courses on cooking, photography, ceramics, and visual arts). Ask us about early-booking discounts with the best fares available for Alaska land/sea packages.

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*\$699 cruise-only fare is based on category II for Sun Princess 5/17/04 sailing. **\$1,429 fare based on category II for Dawn Princess 5/10/04 sailing. Cruisetour MSN. Fares are non-air, per-person, based on double occupancy, subject to availability and are capacity controlled. Government fees and taxes are additional. Airfare is available. Upgrade offer applies within stateroom class only. Balcony/Balcony/Outside/Outside, inside/inside and is for new booking only. Shipboard credit is \$50 per person (maximum \$100 per stateroom). Photo is 2 maximum per stateroom. Bottle of wine is one maximum per stateroom. See applicable Princess' brochure for terms, conditions and definitions that will apply to your booking. Offer not applicable with other discounts or promotional fares. ©2004 Princess Cruises. Ships: registry: British.

CRYSTAL CRUISES. For 2004, the newly refurbished 940-guest *Crystal Harmony* will again set sail to our Last Frontier, offering its very popular roundtrip departures from San Francisco. All in all, *Crystal Harmony* will feature ten 12-day itineraries between May 30 and September 27, with the May 30 and September 15 departures being *Value Collection* sailings. Onboard, you can look forward to every amenity possible, such as exquisitely appointed staterooms (over half with private verandahs), a Caesar's Palace at Sea casino, a lavish spa, state-of-the-art fitness facilities, children and teen programs (ages 3-17), paddle tennis, two pools, and award-winning cuisine served in three distinctive venues, as well as a variety of casual dining options.

Two new features for 2004: All non-alcoholic beverages are now complimentary (including cappuccino, café latté, specialty coffees, bottled water, soft drinks, and juices), and you can now pre-register for all shore excursions up to two weeks prior to your sailing date and preview your excursion options on-line at www.crystalcruises.com.

One of the many impressive programs offered on all Crystal cruises is their Crystal Visions Enrichment Program lecture series. On Alaska itineraries, you can look forward to seminars and Q&A sessions about native culture, history of the region, wildlife, and much more from noted lecturers and speakers who share their knowledge of this magnificent part of the world. Another very popular program is Crystal's Computer University@Sea®.



We encourage you to see, experience and enjoy this magnificent destination – again, and again, and again.

For many of us, we simply choose to cruise the Alaskan coastline on either an Inside Passage, or Gulf of Alaska itinerary. Yet, more and more of us are finding the very best way to experience – and fully appreciate – this Last Frontier is to combine a cruise with a land vacation. Give us a call today and we'll make the arrangements!



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ALASKA 2004



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*Fare listed is per person, in U.S. dollars, cruise only for category "G" on *Crystal Harmony*, based on double occupancy, subject to availability and capacity-controlled, for 9/15/04 cruise and includes port charges of \$160 per person. Airfare not included and no air credit is available. Air add-ons are available from Crystal Cruises' designated gateway cities. Certain restrictions regarding combinability of Crystal Society and Marketing Partner discounts and promotions may apply. Crystal Society and Onboard Booking savings do not apply to Value Collection sailings. Kids Sail Free offer is limited to triple stateroom accommodations, is capacity controlled and limited to one child per stateroom. Port charges for children under 12 of \$160 per child are additional. ©2003 Crystal Cruises, Inc. Ships' Registry: The Bahamas

This program provides group and individual instruction on how to use a PC, e-mail services, Internet access, and up-to-the-minute stock reports.

For the past eight years, Crystal Cruises has been named "World's Best Large Ship Cruise Line" by readers of *Condé Nast Traveler*, as well as the recipient of *Travel + Leisure* magazine's "World's Best" award. Please call us for more information about these Alaska cruises and other itineraries available throughout the world.

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03/04



Children of Uganda


Frank Katoola artistic director

Thu 2/19 7 pm

Sat 2/21 8 pm

Power Center

Children of Uganda's exhilarating program of East African music and dance features pulsing rhythms, quicksilver movements, powerful drums, lyric flutes, and songs of joy and hope. Originally founded to teach orphaned children traditional songs, dances, and stories, the Children of Uganda now represent the 1.7 million Ugandan children orphaned by AIDS and war. "Given sorrow, they have made beauty. With nothing more than sticks and drums and their own bare feet, they have made art. Their performance brought the audience to its feet, cheering and stomping and whistling for more." (*Boston Globe*)

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Cecilia Bartoli mezzo-soprano

Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment

Fri 2/20 8 pm

Hill Auditorium

Cecilia Bartoli's meteoric rise over the past decade has led to sellout performances throughout the world, including three UMS recitals. With astonishing ease, she rips through coloratura roulades, effortlessly shifting to breathtakingly beautiful lyricism. A champion of undiscovered work by well-known composers, she performs a program of arias by Salieri, Gluck, and Vivaldi in her first Michigan appearance since 1997.

PROGRAM

Works by Salieri, Gluck, and Vivaldi

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FREE EDUCATION EVENTS: CHILDREN OF UGANDA

Community Performance Exchange

Wed 2/18 7 pm

Community Church of God • 565 Jefferson • Ypsilanti

Mini-performances by Children of Uganda and Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti youth choirs in a community-wide performance exchange.

New Bethel Baptist Church Visit

Sun 2/22 10:45 am and 3:30 pm

New Bethel Baptist Church • 8430 C. L. Franklin Blvd. • Detroit

Children of Uganda perform during morning and evening worship services at Detroit's historic New Bethel Baptist Church.

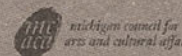


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4 WEDNESDAY EVENTS continued

Reads program. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★**Meditation: Karma Thegsum Choling.** Every Wednesday. All invited to join an hour of meditation in the Karma Kargyu tradition. Instruction for beginning meditators available at 7 p.m. by appointment. 7:30-8:30 p.m., KTC, 614 Miner (off Miller). Free. 761-7495, 678-7549.

★**Shamanic Journeys: Magical Education Council.** Every Wednesday. Using special postures, participants enter a meditative state to the beat of a shaman's drum and discuss their experiences afterward. 7:30 p.m., Inter-Cooperative Council Education Center, 1522 Hill (in the carriage house behind the co-op buildings). Free. 665-3522.

★**"How to Read the Bible More Effectively": Ann Arbor Christadelphian Church.** Every Wednesday. All invited to join a discussion. Bring your Bible. 7:30-9 p.m., AACC, 5795 Pontiac Trail at Dixboro. Free. (313) 845-3771.

★**Exploring Tantric Buddhism Association.** February 4, 11, & 18. All invited to hear talks by speakers TBA and try practice sessions about different aspects of Tantric Buddhism. Today's topic: "The Role of the Teacher in Tantra" and an introduction to Ngondro practice. Also this month: a Ngondro practice session (February 11), and "Tibetan Yoga" (February 18). 7:30-9 p.m., Michigan Union Michigan Room. Free. 741-1799.

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a period depot that members restored. 7:30-10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad St., Dexter (take Dexter-Ann Arbor Rd. to downtown Dexter and turn north on Broad St.). Free. 426-5100.

★**Biodiversity Lecture Series: U-M Exhibit Museum "What on Earth Is Biodiversity? Theme Semester."** February 4 & 18. First 2 in a series of 3 lectures exploring the nature and significance of biodiversity. Today: U-M natural resources professor Johannes Foufopoulos discusses "What Is Biodiversity?" Also this month: U-M biology professor William Fink on "Museums as Biodiversity Laboratories" (February 18). 7:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

★**"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** Every Wednesday. All invited to discuss one of Rudolf Steiner's basic anthroposophical books, *Intuitive Thinking as a Spiritual Path*. 8-9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 485-3764.

★**"Keep on Dancing": U-M Hillel.** Screening of Grace Moses's MTV-video-style documentary about the recent bombing at the Israeli nightclub the Dolphinarium and the reactions of Israeli clubbers. Followed by a discussion led by Moses. 8 p.m., 1429 Hill. Free. 769-0500.

★**"September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows: Turning Our Grief into Action for Peace": Shaman Drum Bookshop/Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice.** Peaceful Tomorrows member David Potori discusses how this group came together and what it has done during the first year and a half of its existence to prevent its members' losses from being used as a justification for further violence and terror. Signing. 8 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company.** See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

★**"Comedy Jamm Night": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** Every Wednesday. Performances by aspiring stand-up comics and by established area pros coming out to work on new material. The show concludes with a performance by the improv troupe **Beer Money**. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$5 in advance and at the door. 996-9080.

FILMS

MTF. "Girl with a Pearl Earring" (Peter Webber, 2003). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. "21 Grams" (Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, 2003). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. U-M Center for South Asian Studies. "Tree Without Roots" (Tanvir Mokammel, 2002). When a crooked traveling cleric convinces villagers that a dilapidated tomb is a high holy site, he pockets the offerings left there and rises to great power, with grave consequences. Bengali, subtitles. FREE. Lorch Hall Auditorium, 611 Tappan. 763-5408. 7 p.m.

5 THURSDAY

★**"West Play Day for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** Every Thursday. Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. 10-11

a.m., AADL West Branch story room, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 327-4200.

★**Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center.** Every Thursday. A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with "Fitness Fun," a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. At 11 a.m., an educational or cultural presentation. Today: showing and discussion of *Delta Jews*, a video documentary about a thriving century-old Jewish community in the Mississippi delta. Also this month: U-M Life Sciences, Values, and Society project associate Aaron Goldenberg discusses "Jewish Perspectives Regarding Life Sciences Issues" (February 12 & 26), Sakina Zerrel and others discuss "Zeitouna: A Group of Arab and Jewish Women in Dialogue" (February 19). Also, at noon, a homemade dairy lunch (\$3 with reservation, \$4 without reservation and for non-seniors). The program concludes with the **Current Events** discussion group (1-2 p.m.) and a meeting of the **Senior Literary Group** (2:15-3:15 p.m.), a book discussion group led by U-M Dearborn English professor emeritus Sidney Warschawsky. All invited. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

★**Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** Every Thursday. All seniors age 55 & older invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. Noon, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$3 (nonresidents, \$3.75). 769-5911.

★**Thursday Forum: First Presbyterian Church.** Talk by city environmental coordinator Matthew Naud on the array of environmental programs the city has developed and the pressing environmental issues it currently faces. All invited. Noon-1:15 p.m., First Presbyterian Church social hall, 1432 Washtenaw. \$5 (includes buffet lunch). 662-4466.

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** February 5, 12, & 19. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: Connecticut College history professor Alexis Dudden discusses "Apologetic Terms." Also this month: University of Illinois history professor Ronald Toby on "The Originality of the Copy: The Genetics and Politics of Hanagawa Tei's Chosenjim Ukie" (February 12) and University of Hawaii anthropology professor Christine Yano on "Cherry Blossom Viewing: Portrayals of Japanese Americans on Japanese Television" (February 19). Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6307.

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** February 5, 12, 19, & 26. Performances by area and guest artists. Today: local pianist Kathryn Goodson and Detroit Symphony Orchestra trombonist Randy Howes perform jazz and classical works. Also this month: Norma Gentile performs medieval healing chants to the accompaniment of a Tibetan singing bowl (February 12), Ian Zook performs works TBA on French horn and piano (February 19), and the Paul VornHagen Trio performs everything from bossa nova to bebop (February 26). 12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936-ARTS.

★**"Access Soapbox": Ann Arbor Community Television Network.** Every Thursday. A chance to express your views, discuss your activities, or announce upcoming events on the local public access station (cable channel 17). Participants are free to talk about anything they wish within CTN guidelines: no direct solicitation of funds, no lottery information, and no material that is obscene, defamatory, invasive of personal privacy, or infringing on copyrights or trademarks. Limited to 5 minutes, each segment features 1 or 2 speakers (with no more than 2 graphics) who talk directly to the camera. Production crew provided by CTN. **Access Soapbox** shows are aired daily for 1 week, beginning on Sunday. 2-7 p.m., CTN studio, LL 114 Edison Center, 425 S. Main. Free. Reservations accepted Tues.-Fri. of the week preceding your appearance. 769-7422.

★**Fiona Raby: U-M School of Art Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** Talk by this designer, one of whose recent projects involves what she calls "psychological furniture" that aims to soothe users by incorporating natural features, such as a live turf chair and a coffee table in which a cucumber grows. 5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 763-UMMA.

★**Michael Byers: U-M English Department.** Fiction reading by this PEN/Hemingway and O. Henry-winning short story writer and novelist. Byers's most recent novel, *Long for This World*, portrays a geneticist who makes a startling discovery that leads to his devising a risky experimental treatment for a dying child. *Publishers Weekly* says its "characterizations are so vivid and convincing that they are nearly hyper-real, as if Byers had set his protagonists under a microscope." 5 p.m., D1270 Davidson Hall, 701 Tappan. Free. 615-3710.

★**"Black on Wax": U-M MLK Symposium.** Costumed U-M student historical reenactors create a "living wax museum" of African American historical figures. Also, a step dance show (\$5) and dance performance. Live music by musicians TBA. Refresh-



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Ann Doyle Deeply satisfying

Ann Doyle's CD *Ready to Move* is not a farewell. A longtime mainstay of the local music scene, Doyle is not leaving Ann Arbor, nor is she seeking greener pastures elsewhere. No, on the new CD, Doyle is singing about another kind of journey, a voyage on which she's matured and grown in understanding—in both senses of the word—of herself, of people, and relationships.

Ready to Move showcases the qualities that have long earned Doyle the affection of loyal fans and the respect of fellow musicians; finely crafted songs, inventive guitar playing, and an agile, highly expressive voice. The expert touch of her arranger and pianist, Doug Howell, is evident throughout. Featuring Danny Cox on drums, John Dunn on bass, and Robert Tye on guitar, the quartet's support is so right that you notice them only when you should. They will back Doyle at her CD release concert at the Ark on Saturday, February 7. In addition to the impeccable musicianship, expect a hearty dose of Doyle's trademark humor and genuine spontaneity in interacting with her audiences.

The new album takes off with "Northwest Flight 332"—"I've come to know / no matter how far I roam / I love my home"—and the second song, the title track, introduces the tension that pervades the entire album: "I don't know how I wound up / with an empty nest / in midlife, in limbo / in love again."

Doyle's songs always spring from the personal, even when she writes, as she did on her first album, of Tiananmen Square or homophobia, but they are never public self-therapy. Molding the material of her life, her songs are mirrors that reflect familiar yet surprising images of our common humanity.

The CD has a deeply satisfying trajectory. The first few tracks rise to the lyrical, exuberant love song "Lucky One." Then "Sheila" descends into the inevitable diffi-



culties of relationships, delivering an angry plea to an intruding third party. The album hits its emotional nadir with two songs about the pain of faltering relationships—"Let's Not Do This" and "Only You Would Know"—before turning again toward hope. But now it is a mature, unsentimental hope. On "Bruised Peach" the singer has gained a hard-earned willingness to wait, and a profound understanding of someone else's pain. On "Still Tickling," Doyle wryly celebrates her own resilience: "And even if I'm not / the one you end up picking / At least I know my heart's / still ticking."

The album closes with "I Feel Grateful," featuring just piano and Doyle's voice, and an almost hymnlike melody: "I've got my music / to get me through / dark times / and I feel grateful / I do."

We, too, can be grateful for Doyle's music, to get us through both dark and good times.

—Sandor Slomovits

ments. 6 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. Free. 213-7755.

★**"Women Running Fit": Two Dogs Running.** Every Thursday. All women invited to pair up with runners of their pace and run a distance of their choice. Maps provided. Runners who accumulate 50 miles receive a T-shirt from Running Fit. 6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free. 657-0214.

Cooking Session: Kitchen Port. February 5, 10, 12, 19, & 26. Today: George Estabrook gives a lecture (without the usual taste samples) on "A Culinary History of Citrus Fruits." Also this month: Gary Magenta gives tips on how to "Love, Honor, & Entertain" (February 10), pastry chef Paul Cousins prepares Fort Knox Pie and other "Chocolate Valentine Delights" (February 12), Katherine's Catering chef Heidi Bleiler makes "A Mardi Gras Menu" (February 19), and Wusthof-Trident's Ed Bartush demonstrates (no samples) "Knife Skills" (February 26). 6:30-8:30 p.m., Kitchen Port (Kerrytown). \$15 (Feb. 5, 12, & 19), \$20 (Feb. 10), & \$25 (Feb. 26) includes coffee, taste samples, & recipes. Preregistration requested. 665-9188.

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Purdue. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths under 18, \$1; U-M students with ID, free). 764-0247.

★**Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition.** All invited to discuss ways to improve the quality and quantity of bicycling and walking facilities in the county. 7 p.m., Ecology Center, 117 N. Division. Free. 487-9058.

★**Washtenaw Toastmasters.** Every Thursday. Members develop public-speaking skills and self-confidence in a supportive environment. Different Toastmasters chapters meet Mondays and Wednesdays (see listings). 7-9 p.m., 4205 Washtenaw. Free to visitors. Dues: \$52 a year (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of \$16). 572-9978.

★**Reiki: Center for Intuitive Health.** Local reiki

master Ray Golden discusses this healing technique and gives minitreatments. 7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663-9724.

★**"Circles of Prophecy": Crystal Clear Expressions.** Psychic Nanci Rose Gerler channels empowering spiritual messages from various masters, guides, and angels. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore meeting room, 114 S. Main. \$15. Reservations requested. 996-8799.

★**Bell Hooks: Arborland Borders.** Social critic Bell Hooks reads from *The Will to Change: Men, Masculinity, and Love*, her new book about solving the problems experienced by African American men. Also, signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★**"Information about Cohousing."** February 5 & 16. All invited to learn more about a new cohousing community now forming. Cohousing is a term for an ecologically conscious, collectively owned, resident-planned housing development, such as the Sunward Cohousing complex off Jackson Road. 7 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 663-5853.

★**"Issues of Privacy in America": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by writer and activist Susan Raffo, author of *Queerly Classed: Gay Men and Lesbians Write about Class*. She also signs copies of her book, which is available for sale. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★**"The Dirty Secrets of the Food Industry": Healthy Traditions Network.** Slide-illustrated talk by Sally Fallon, author of *Nourishing Traditions: The Cookbook That Challenges Politically Correct Nutrition and the Diet Dictocrats*. Her presentation begins with an overview of the discoveries of Weston Price, a Cleveland dentist who in the 1930s traveled the globe investigating the diets of traditional, isolated people. 7-9 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church/Tem-

ple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. \$5-\$10 sliding scale; no one is turned away for inability to pay. 662-8006.

★**"A Conversation with Tradition: An Evening of Classical and Contemporary Indian Dance": U-M Museum of Art "First Thursday."** Local Sadhana Studio director Madhavi Marcia Mai and Troy Indian dance teacher Bipasha Guptaroy perform a dance program highlighted by 2 original works set to poetry by Rabindranath Tagore and a trio of South Asian poets. Also, dances in the south Indian Bharatanatyam and Odissi styles. 7 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763-UMMA.

★**Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers.** Every Thursday. Instruction for intermediate-level dancers in a wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-soled shoes recommended. Refreshments. 7:30-9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver (off Nixon). \$3. 769-4324, 426-0241.

★**Stuart Dybek: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This award-winning, highly acclaimed WMU English professor reads from *I Sailed with Magellan*, his collection of intertwined stories, narrated by a young Polish American growing up on Chicago's racially diverse South Side in the 1950s and 1960s, about an assortment of irrepressibly vital characters. "It's hard to tell where Nelson Algren leaves off and Stuart Dybek begins—they're a couple of naturals," says Chicago icon Studs Terkel. Signing. 8 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

★**Ann Arbor Ski Club.** February 5 & 20. All invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski and snowboarding outings and other social activities. Tonight's meeting is followed by a dance. Also this month: a screening of a video on "Cross Country Skating" and a talk by manufacturers representatives TBA on "Picking the Right Downhill Ski for You" (February 20). Newcomers welcome. Must be 21 or older. 8-11 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. Free. 761-3419.

★**Low Brass and Piano Recital: EMU Music Department.** A trio of Ohio University music professors—trombonist Christopher Hayes, tubaist Jason Smith, and pianist Gail Berenson—perform solo and duet works for trombone and tuba with piano accompaniment. Includes music by Marcello, Larsen, Stojowski, Dubois, and Uber. 8 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

Rachael Davis: The Ark. This very talented young singer-songwriter from Cadillac, Michigan, impressed Ark audiences as opening act last year for Dar Williams and Chris Smither. She's a gifted singer whose influences range from Ella Fitzgerald to Patty Griffin, and her debut CD, *Minor League Deities*, is an impressively versatile collection of original songs. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$11 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★**"Dances for Petersburg": U-M Dance Company.** February 5-8. This U-M dance-student company presents a program of dances inspired by Russian composers and poets, in conjunction with the U-M's yearlong celebration of the 300th anniversary of St. Petersburg. Highlighted by a dance set to Shostakovich's String Quartet no. 15 by **Alonzo King**, the renowned founder of the LINES Ballet in San Francisco. Also, works by U-M dance faculty choreographers Peter Sparling, Jessica Fogel, Gay Delanghe, and Ruth Leney-Midkiff. Sparling and Fogel present dances set to music by Stravinsky and inspired by the work of 2 influential 20th-century poets, Anna Akhmatova and Osip Mandelstam. Delanghe's piece explores how a 1904 trip to St. Petersburg by modern-dance pioneer Isadora Duncan influenced Russian ballet choreographer Michael Fokine, and Leney-Midkiff's piece explores St. Petersburg's reputation as the "Venice of the North." 8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$15 & \$20 (students, \$8) in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★**"The Miss Firecracker Contest": U-M Basement Arts Theater.** February 5-7. U-M student Ashley Michael directs Beth Henley's bittersweet comedy about an ambitious small-town girl who hopes to polish her iffy reputation by winning a Fourth of July beauty contest. Evening time TBA, Arena Stage (Frieze basement), 105 S. State. Free. 764-6800.

★**"Side Man": Blackbird Theater.** February 5-8, 12-15, 19-22, & 26-29. William Myers directs local actors in Warren Leight's poignant Tony Award-winning semiautobiographical drama. When a 30-year-old returns to New York to hear his estranged father play jazz trumpet, he is tortured by painful childhood memories of an alcoholic, unstable mother and a cold, absent father in the waning days of the jazz era. Cast: Maryjo Cuppone, Gayle Martin, Joseph Klei, Matthew Phenix, Mitch Range, Lynch Travis, and Ken Wood. 8 p.m., Blackbird Theater,



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5 THURSDAY EVENTS continued

1600 Pauline (at Kay Pkwy. east of Stadium). Tickets \$17 (seniors, \$12; students, \$7) in advance and at the door. 483-7724.

"A Thousand Clowns": P.T.D. Productions. February 5-8 & 12-15. Dennis Platte directs Herb Gardner's zingy, poignant comedy, set in 1960s Manhattan, about Murray, a ne'er-do-well unemployed free spirit whose whoop-it-up antiestablishment behavior threatens to cost him custody of a straitlaced 12-year-old nephew. As unamused social workers draw up employment-related ultimatums, Murray fights to keep both his nephew and his different-drummer lifestyle. Critics have singled out as especially enjoyable *Clowns*'s rapid-fire, witty repartee and its multifaceted, noncartoonish characterizations. Cast: Eric Maurer, Phil Smith, Marie Jones, Joseph York, and Rick Katon. 8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$15 (students & seniors, \$10) in advance and at the door. 483-7345.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Milt Abel: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. February 5-7. Clever, fresh observational humor by this West Coast monologist known for his manic manner and sometimes bizarre points of view who appears frequently on cable TV comedy shows. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$7 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

FILMS

Korean Studies Program Film Series. "The Stray Bullet" (Yoo Hyun-Mok, 1961). This parable about postwar anxiety depicts a poverty-stricken accountant living in a miserable shack who is gradually driven to desperate extremes by his mooching relatives. Korean, subtitles. FREE. 485-1848. 1636 School of Social Work Building. 7 p.m. MTF. "Girl with a Pearl Earring" (Peter Webber, 2003). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. "21 Grams" (Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, 2003). See 1 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. **Projectorhead.** Double bill. "Pinocchio" (Ben Sharpsteen & Hamilton Luske, 1940). Arguably Disney's most beautifully animated film, about a lonely woodcarver whose carved puppet comes to life and sets off on adventures. "Lady and the Tramp" (Hamilton Luske, Clyde Geronimi, & Wilfred Jackson, 1955). Endearing animated fable about a rough-hewn, self-reliant mutt who helps a la-di-da pedigreed pup out of trouble and into love. FREE. 615-0445. Modern Languages II (812 E. Washington). 7 p.m.

6 FRIDAY

"Downtown Play Day for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. Every Friday. Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. 10-11 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

"Story Hour A-Z": Arborland Borders. Every Friday. Borders staffers read a selection of kids books, lead a sing-along, and help kids make a take-home craft. Bring something from home whose name begins with the day's featured letter. Today: "E." Also this month: "F" (February 13), "G" (February 20), and—bingo—"H" (February 27). 11 a.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

"Story Circle with Storyteller Rowena Conahan." February 6 & 17. This local storyteller presents a series of programs for kids ages 3-8 featuring stories and games exploring the geography and folklore of different continents. Snack. Today's topic: "Stories from the American Southeast." Also this month, "Love Stories" (February 17). 11:15 a.m.-noon, location TBA. \$8 (2 or more children, \$7 each). 665-2677.

"Comedy and Creativity": IT Zone Creativity Forum. Jan Nichols of Market Arts hosts a discussion with the award-winning stand-up comic Bert "Chili" Challis, a popular headliner at the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase who is a contributing writer to the *Tonight Show*. Bring a bag lunch. Noon-1:30 p.m., IT Zone, 330 E. Liberty. \$5 (members, free). Preregistration required at annarboritzone.org. 665-9403.

"E-Mail Basics": Ann Arbor District Library. Hands-on introduction to advanced e-mail features. 1 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Preregistration required. 327-8367.

Bingo: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Friday. All seniors age 55 & older invited to play a variety of styles of bingo. 1-3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center. \$3.25. 769-5911.

"Fellow Creatures: Kantian Ethics and Our Du-

ties to Animals": U-M Philosophy Department Tanner Lecture on Human Values. Lecture by Harvard University philosophy professor Christine Korsgaard. Also, Harvard University psychology professor Marc Hauser, University of California law and philosophy professor Seana Shiffrin, and Stanford University philosophy professor Allen Wood join Korsgaard for a symposium on her lecture tomorrow morning (9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room). 4-6 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (3rd floor). Free. 764-6285.

***Family Fun Night:** Ann Arbor Art Center. All invited to make a Valentine's Day-themed craft project, a multicultural craft, and nibble on refreshments. Also, local artist Hamil Ma is on hand to draw portraits. Sale of local artists' Valentine's Day-themed works in the gallery shop. 5-9 p.m., AAC, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994-8004, ext. 101.

***Rahul Mehrotra:** U-M College of Architecture and Urban Planning. Talk by this award-winning U-M architecture professor, whose firm has designed factories and office interiors and buildings and has undertaken master planning projects in Mumbai. 5:30 p.m., Art & Architecture auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764-1300.

***Open Card and Board Gaming Night:** The Underworld. Every Friday. All invited to play any of the collectible card or board games that the Underworld carries—but you must find your own opponents. Also, there are Magic: the Gathering tournaments (\$5), using a type 2 constructed deck (bring your own cards), on February 6 & 20. 6 p.m.-midnight, Underworld, 1214 South University. Free. 998-0547.

"Strike Out Homelessness": SOS Community Services. All invited to collect pledges and enjoy an evening of bowling to raise funds for this nonprofit community agency working to help area homeless people. 7-9 p.m., Ypsi-Arbor Lanes, 2985 Washtenaw. Pledges. 961-1205.

9th Annual Hometown Concert: Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic. February 6 & 7. Traditional American fiddle songs, bluegrass, and high-energy American folk by this renowned touring fiddle ensemble of 30 students. Also, a performance by the Raisin Pickers, a Manchester-based string trio that plays old-time jug band dance music, western swing, and newgrass. The Pickers are joined by Appalachian clogger Sheila Graziano. Celebrated jazz violinist Randy Sabien calls the Fiddlers the best student group he has ever seen. Fiddlers Philharmonic shows always sell out, so get tickets early. 7:30 p.m., Saline High School auditorium, 7190 N. Maple Rd., Saline. Tickets \$12 (students through grade 12, \$5) by reservation and (if available) at the door. 944-2006.

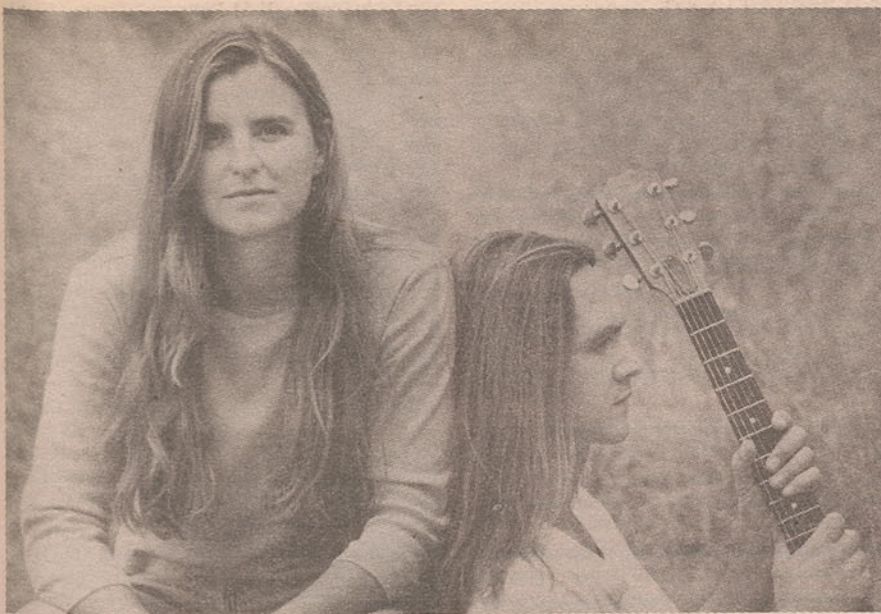
"The Second Death of Priscilla": Pioneer Theater Guild. February 6 & 7. Phil Walker and Hannah Curtis direct Pioneer students in Russell Davis's portrait of a woman struggling to keep herself from falling apart. She is portrayed by three separate actors representing her mind, body, and soul. The play is Pioneer's entry in this year's statewide drama competition. Graphic content; not recommended for kids 11 or younger. 7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Tickets \$5 in advance or at the door. 994-2191.

"Bye, Bye, Birdie": Burns Park Players 20th Annual Production. February 6, 7, & 12-14. Mike Mosallam directs a cast of Burns Park Elementary School students, parents, and friends—a group cited by *Ann Arbor News* drama critic Chris Potter in his 2002 theater roundup as one of the best theater groups in town—in this perennially popular 50s-era musical comedy about an Elvis-like rock 'n' roll star, the hordes of teen-age fans who follow him around, and his harried manager. The show's many well-known tunes include "Put On a Happy Face," "A Lot of Livin' to Do," and "Kids." Cast includes Jared Scotton, Eva Rosenwald, Jane Glass, Ann Herman, Jeffrey Post, Lizzie Randolph, and Frank Worden. Proceeds benefit children's cultural arts programs (the Players have donated \$100,000 to date). These shows almost always sell out, so get tickets early. 7:30 p.m., Tappan Middle School auditorium, 2251 E. Stadium Blvd. at Packard. Tickets \$10 in advance at Food & Drug Mart (1423 Stadium at Packard) and (if available) at the door. Reserved seats available (\$25) at 994-8706. Information: 994-3508.

State of Michigan Classic: U-M Women's Gymnastics. The U-M squad hosts a meet with MSU, EMU, CMU, and WMU. 8 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths age 12 & under, \$1; U-M students, free). 763-2159.

***Snow Moon Potluck and Circle:** Great Lakes Rainbow. All invited to join local neophytes in a drum circle (bring your drum) and enjoy a potluck (bring a dish). No weapons or alcohol. 8 p.m., Liberty Farm, 4938 Liberty (just east of Zeeb Rd.). Park east of the farm on Dornach Dr. Free. 761-4243.

***"It's Not in Heaven":** U-M Hillel. American-born Israeli comic Yisrael Campbell presents a humorous monologue about his roller-coaster journey from



Zoe Speaks, the Kentucky-based duo of guitarist and dulcimer player Mitch Barrett and guitarist and banjoist Carla Gover, performs everything from gospel to originals at the Green Wood Coffee House Feb. 6.

Catholicism to Judaism. Followed by Q&A. 8 p.m., 1429 Hill. Free. 769-0500.

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. February 6 & 20. All invited to peer through the telescope on the Angell Hall roof for celestial visions that might include one of the sky's most spectacular double stars, the constellation Cygnus's star Albireo, which has one sapphire blue and one tangerine star. Members of the U-M Student Astronomical Society on hand to answer questions. 8-11 p.m., fifth floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left). Free. 936-3626.

1st Friday Square and Contra Dance. John Freeman calls contras to live music by Lickety Split. All dances taught; no partner necessary. Aspiring callers may preregister to call one dance. This dance "doesn't take itself as seriously as some of the other dances," notes Freeman. "The band's got a sense of humor, and so do I." 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$7 (students, \$5) at the door. 662-3371.

★Concert Band: U-M School of Music. Steven Davis conducts this music-student ensemble in Scheidt's *Canzona Battaglia*, Ticheli's *Fugal Concerto*, and other works. U-M music faculty guest performers: oboist **Nancy King** and flutist **Amy Porter**. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

Zoe Speaks: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Guitarist and dulcimer player Mitch Barrett and guitarist and banjoist Carla Gover are a husband-and-wife duo from east Kentucky whose repertoire ranges from old-time gospel to guitar-thumping originals. "Their spare arrangements and unwavering harmonies evoke Gillian Welch and David Rawlings, but their songs are more personal," says *Acoustic Guitar* magazine. The duo's latest CD, *Birds Fly South*, is a tribute to their Appalachian roots. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$10 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

House Concert: Academy of Early Music. Solo and ensemble performances by members of this noted local early-music ensemble. Followed by a reception. 8 p.m., Artful Lodger Bed and Breakfast, 1547 Washtenaw. Tickets \$15 (seniors and Academy members, \$12; students, \$5). 477-8081.

"An Evening with Songwriter Ricky Ian Gordon": Cabaret@Kerrytown (Kerrytown Concert House). February 6 & 7. An elegant evening featuring this award-winning songwriter, one of the best young lions of the current New York musical theater scene. Gordon's arty, effervescent songs, which a *New York Times* critic called "caviar for a world gorging on pizza," feature lyrics by Langston Hughes, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Dorothy Parker, and James Agee. Performers: baritone **Paul Tipton**, tenor **Jason Wilhoite**, mezzo-sopranos **Wendy Bloom** and **Deanna Relyea**, and U-M musical theater students. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15, \$20, & \$30. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Anything Goes": Huron Players. February 6-8. Dan Gerics directs 180 Huron students in Cole Porter's delightful Depression-era musical about romantic liaisons among the passengers on an ocean liner bound from New York to England. The score contains many of Porter's best-known and most lyrically erudite songs, including "I Get a Kick out of

You," "Blow, Gabriel, Blow," "You're the Top," and the title song. Stars Galen Bostian-Kentes, Helen Balenstein, Liz Jaffe, and Monica Firestone. 8 p.m., Huron High School Meyer Auditorium, 2727 Fuller Rd. at Huron Pkwy. Tickets \$10 (students & seniors, \$8; families, \$30) at the door. 994-2096.

"Dances for Petersburg": U-M Dance Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Snow Queen in Seven Stories": Dreamland Theater. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

★"The Miss Firecracker Contest": U-M Basement Arts Theater. See 5 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"A Thousand Clowns": P.T.D. Productions. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Milt Abel: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

1st Friday Dance: Parents Without Partners. All adults invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s-90s music played by a DJ from Imperial Sound. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. \$7 (PWP members, \$5). 973-1933.

★"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. February 6 & 28. Tango dancing to recorded music. Note: People not affiliated with the U-M are not admitted to the Union after 9 p.m., but those who arrive before 9 p.m. may remain through the end of the evening. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Michigan Union U-Club. Free. 973-2338.

The Big Wu: The Blind Pig. Upbeat groove-oriented rock and acoustic funk by this popular Minneapolis band. Opening act is **Addison Groove Project**, a 7-piece jazz-funk jam band from New York City. 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets \$10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$12 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666; for information, call 996-8555.


FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

7 SATURDAY

★Midwest Regional Competition: National Ocean Sciences Bowl. Huron and Dexter high school student teams square off against 2002 and 2003 winner Port Hope and 9 other high school teams from throughout Michigan to compete in 16-minute rapid-fire quiz sessions in this round-robin contest culminating in exciting double-elimination finals (1:30 p.m.). The bowl tests knowledge of the Great Lakes and the world's oceans in 6 categories. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., U-M School of Natural Resources, 430 E. University. Free. 741-2370.

★Walk: Grex. Every Saturday (different locations). All invited to join members of this local computer-conferencing group for a walk, either along trails in Bird Hills Park (February 7) or from Gallup Park

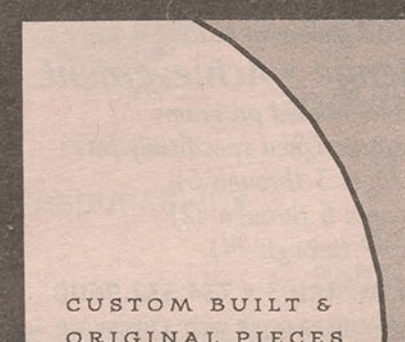


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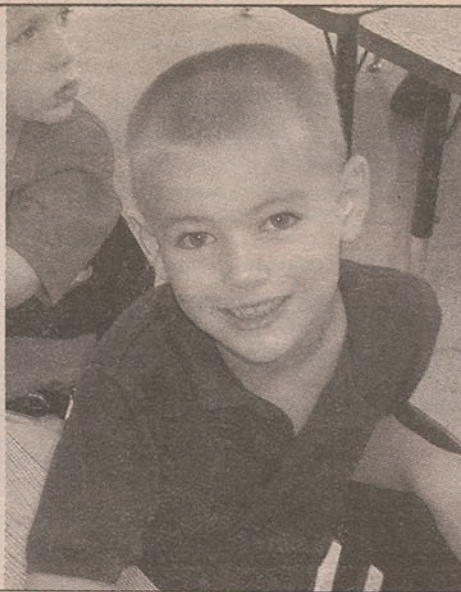


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We want to thank you all for giving our son a better chance in life. To be able to explore things that he never would have been encouraged to try in a public setting. Having friends to call, to invite over, to hang out with is a reality that we had all but given up on. That alone has made a world of difference in his life and in his feelings of self worth. Not only have you helped our son but also you have helped us (his parents) see our son for the great kid he is and what he can become.

With deep gratitude,
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7 SATURDAY EVENTS continued

through Nichols Arboretum (February 14, 21, & 28). 10 a.m., meet at the Newport Rd. entrance to Bird Hills Park (Feb. 7) & in Gallup Park parking lot (Feb. 14, 21, & 28), 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 930-6564.

★"Long-Term Care Insurance": Housing Bureau for Seniors. Talks by Catholic Social Services Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program coordinator Barbara Zaret and certified elder attorney Jim Schuster. Topics include understanding terminology and different policy features, deciding if long-term care insurance is right for you, and finding the right insurance representatives. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd., suite C. Free. 998-9339.

★Walk: Washtenaw Bicycle and Walking Coalition. Every Saturday. All invited to join a 1-hour walk along a different route, mostly through parks and natural areas, each week. 11 a.m., location TBA. Free. 973-2338.

Draw Doubles: Ann Arbor Area Disc Induced Sports Club. Every Saturday. All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole disc golf courses. Disc golf is a popular sport played with a Frisbee-like disc; the goal is to land the disc in a "pole hole" in the fewest shots. In draw doubles play, beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Golf discs available free from the Hudson Mills Metropark office. 11 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$4 per player; free for spectators. (Park entry fee: \$4 per vehicle.) 434-1615.

★Family Storytime: Arborland Borders. Every Saturday. Borders staffers read stories and lead sings. Today's topic: "Celebrate Black History Month." Also this month: "Celebrate Valentine's Day" (February 14), "Winter Animals" (February 21), and "All about Michigan" (February 28). 11 a.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★Children's Storytime: Nicola's Books. February 7, 14, 21, & 28. Stories for kids with storytellers Rowena Conahan (today), Bev Black (February 14 & 28), and Bill Casello and his talking parrot (February 21). 11 a.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662-4110.

Mister Laurence & His Play Money Band: Oz's Music. See review, p. 63. This popular local children's entertainer performs a mix of silly kiddie-rock originals, including songs from his new CD, *Pure Gibberish*, along with children's music classics. He accompanies himself on accordion and guitar while singing karaoke-style to prerecorded backup by his Play Money Band. 11 a.m., Oz's Music, 1920 Packard. \$3 (kids 12 & under, \$1). 662-8283.

Valentine's Day Trunk Show: Heavenly Metal. Show and sale of a variety of works on Valentine's Day themes by local artists. Jeweler Kristine Perkins offers glass and metal jewelry that includes glass heart beads. Jeweler Christine Schopieray shows tailored yet "girly girl" jewelry. Fiber artist Megan Beebe has whimsical purses and scarves. Soapmaker Melissa Maslyn offers colorful handmade soaps. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Heavenly Metal (inside Vicki's Wash & Wear Haircuts), 207 E. Ann. Free admission. 663-4247.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Purdue. 12:17 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$15 & \$21. 764-0247.

★Mech Warrior and Warhammer 40K Tournaments: The Underworld. Every Saturday. All invited to play one of these very popular tactical miniatures board games. Prizes. 1-5 p.m., The Underworld, 1202 South University. Free. 998-0547.

★"Auditioning Tips": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. All invited to learn how to effectively audition for plays at the AACT or other venues. Tips address character development, dazzling the director, and what not to do at an audition. 1-4 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Arts Building College Theater, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 971-2228.

★American Field Service Intercultural Programs. Representatives from this high school exchange student organization are on hand to give short talks on their experiences hosting international students and answer questions. 2-4 p.m., Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main. Free. 995-1605, 913-4670.

★"Wildlife in Winter": Waterloo Recreation Area. Waterloo Recreation Area park interpreter Kathy Kavanagh leads a walk to look for wildlife or the signs they have left behind and learn about how different animals cope with winter. The event begins with an indoor program that includes readings of a short poem from Amy Goldman Koss's *Where Fish Go in Winter* and viewing of animal mounts and study skins. Dress for the weather. 2-4 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) Free. Preregistration required. \$4 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit (\$20 per year). 475-3170.

ready have a state motor vehicle permit (\$20 per year). 475-3170.

★"Birds of Prey": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Slide-illustrated talk by Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck. 2 p.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$2. (Park entry fee: \$4 per vehicle.) Preregistration required. 426-8211.

★"Exploring Biodiversity: Tracks and Traces": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library. Family-oriented program exploring how to read animal tracks and traces. 2-3 p.m., AADL Mallets Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Packard & Stone School rds.) Free. Preregistration required. 327-4200.

★"Imbolc Ritual": Druids of Shining Lakes Grove. All invited to celebrate this ancient Celtic Druidic late winter festival of light and the earth's hidden fertility that honors the hearth goddess Brid. Also, potluck (bring a dish to pass) and raffle. 2-5 p.m., 1910 Hill. Free. 998-1029.

Kids Drum Circle with Muruga and Oz: Oz's Music. All kids invited to join a drumming session hosted by veteran Detroit percussionist Muruga Booker. 3 p.m., Oz's Music, 1920 Packard. Donation. 662-8283.

★Keith Copeland: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon 2003. The owner of the Ann Arbor Quest Center, a martial arts school, reads from his new book, *The Path to Yourself*. He also leads exercises that help participants gain insight into themselves and their future. Also, signing. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★ASL/Silent Coffee Hour. All hearing and deaf American Sign Language speakers invited to an hour of chat in American Sign Language (ASL). 4 p.m., Eastern Accents, 214 S. Fourth Ave. Free. fab@umich.edu.

★"In Good Company African American Book Club": Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion of Spelman College president (and U-M grad) Beverly Daniel Tatum's study *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?* (see 25 Wednesday listing). 4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. Information: Veleria Banks at (734) 942-6013.

"Science of the Heart": Anchors Unlimited Science Fun. Kids 7-13 invited for an evening of enjoyable hands-on individual and group science and math games and activities. Refreshments, prizes. These popular sessions fill up quickly. 5-7:30 p.m., Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. \$7. Preregistration required. (313) 438-3337.

"Valentine's Dinner for Two": Whole Foods Market. Chef Aaron Wynn prepares a romantic meal from entree to dessert. 6-8 p.m., WFM, 3135 Washtenaw. \$10. Preregistration requested. 975-4500.

"Michigan's Lumbering Past": King of Kings Lutheran Church "Family Fun Night." Tarnation! Historical reenactor Michael Deren portrays Shanty Boy Jim Murphy, a wildcat-wrestlin', ax-swingin', bedbug-squashin', rugged-yet articulate-old-timey Michigan lumberjack who magically transforms the audience into a pine forest, teaches lumbering lingo and songs, leads a sing-along, and invites kids to "Be a stump!" Preceded by a gut-bustin' flapjack dinner. 6 p.m., King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard Rd. (at Eisenhower). Donation. Preregistration requested. 663-9634.

"8th Annual Hearts for the Arts": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra/U-M Cardiovascular Center. Champagne reception, formal dinner, and live auction of donated goods and services. Also, silent auction and drawing for a diamond pendant. Proceeds benefit both organizations' educational programs. 6 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. \$150 & \$200. Reservations required by January 30. 994-4801.

★Open Role-Playing Gaming Night: The Underworld. Every Saturday. All invited to play any of the role-playing games that the Underworld carries, but you must find your own opponents. 6 p.m.-midnight, The Underworld, 1214 South University. Free. 998-0547.

Groundhog Ball: Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Fiddler Elke Baker and pianist Liz Donaldson perform live music for an evening of jigs, reels, and strathspeys. Dance briefs provided. Includes a full dinner. 6 p.m., First Unitarian Church, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. at Ellsworth. \$45 (non-dancers, \$40). Preregistration required. 769-1052.

"Kids Night Out!": Jewish Community Center. All kids ages 5-10 invited to an indoor beach party with summertime games, craft activities, a movie, and snacks. Dinner served. Also, a pizza dinner. 6:30-10:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$20 (JCC members, \$15), \$16 (JCC members, \$14) for additional siblings. Reservations required. 971-0990.

"Mardi Gras 2004" 19th Annual Celebration: Washtenaw Community College. An evening of fun



Neil Woodward, recently designated Michigan's "state troubadour" by the legislature, performs ballads at the Ark Feb. 8.

and frolic in the New Orleans tradition, with dinner and dancing. The evening kicks off with a sumptuous Louisiana feast created by WCC culinary students and local chefs, followed by dancing to **Al Hill and the Love Butlers**, a veteran local band that plays soulful swing, New Orleans-style funk, and boogie-woogie blues. Guests encouraged to come in costume or formal dress. All proceeds benefit WCC scholarships. 6:45 p.m., WCC Student Center Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$150 in advance only. 973-3665.

"Owls in the Night": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Howell Nature Center and Leslie Science Center staff members present a program that includes hikes, owl calling, presentations with live owls, and more. 7-9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$6 (families, \$25). 997-1553.

"Huge Rock Concert": The Neutral Zone. Performances by local rock bands Voodoo Lighthouse, XU, Elastic Eight Track, and Imagine Me Gary. 7-11 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main. \$5. 214-9995.

"The Second Death of Priscilla": Pioneer Theater Guild. See 6 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Bye, Bye, Birdie": Burns Park Players 20th Annual Production. See 6 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

***16th Annual "Big Rack Night."** This very popular annual contest for white-tailed deer hunters attracts more than 400 people. The top 12 award winners (men, women, and children) in firearms and archery divisions are invited to display their game racks (whitetail antlers) and swap hunting stories. Some of the speakers are very entertaining. Also, talks by guest speakers with unusual or outstanding racks. Prizes for "biggest rack" (number, size, and mass of points on the 2 horns). Light dinner included. 6 p.m. (doors open), 8 p.m. (awards), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free admission. 439-7919.

***Matt Smith: EMU Holy Trinity Catholic Student Organization.** Talk by this self-styled "straight-edge religious hipster," a spokesman for the Catholic youth organization Lifetown who is best known as a cast member of MTV's *Real World IX: New Orleans*. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 482-1400.

1st Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Contra dances, led by caller Lisa Ornstein with music by Dr. Grangelove. No partner needed. Wear cool, casual clothes and flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$8 (AACTMAD members, \$7; students, \$5). 332-9024.

Thread Quintet and Trio Yo Dude: Canterbury House. Double bill of Chicago jazz ensembles. The fast-rising Thread Quintet features bassist Brian Diblee, saxophonists Keefe Jackson and Dave Rempis, trombonist Nick Broste, and drummer Frank Rosaly. The Trio Yo Dude features saxophonist Daniel Friedman, keyboardist Alex Chadsey, and drummer Erik Hall. 8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. \$5-\$10 donation. 764-3162.

Ann Doyle: The Ark. See review, p. 57. This gifted local singer-songwriter, known for her haunting songs about romance and heartbreak, performs a mixed program of new songs and old favorites. An

excellent guitarist who sings in a voice that is at once ethereal and earthy, she writes searchingly passionate, brightly figured lyrical ballads that are both poignant and edged with a wry humor. She is accompanied by pianist Doug Howell, percussionist Danny Cox, and bassist John Dunn. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"An Evening with Songwriter Ricky Ian Gordon": Cabaret @ Kerrytown (Kerrytown Concert House). See 6 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Anything Goes": Huron Players. See 6 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Dances for Petersburg": U-M Dance Company. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

***"The Miss Firecracker Contest":** U-M Basement Arts Theater. See 5 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

"The Snow Queen in Seven Stories": Dreamland Theater. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"A Thousand Clowns": P.T.D. Productions. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Milt Abel: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 5 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Shapeshifting: A Dance and Rhythm Jam": Nightfire. Dance theater performance by Nightfire, a self-styled "nouveau gypsy" local performance troupe that blends dance, music, poetry, masks, costumes, and improvised ceremony in a tribal, dreamlike fusion. The performance draws on themes of interspecies shapeshifting, linkage with ancestors, and timeless love. The dancers are accompanied by the percussion ensemble Rhythm Family and by guitarist Geoff Esty and shakuhachi (Japanese flute) Michael Gould. The performance concludes with a group dance in which the audience is invited to participate. Followed by a dance party with music by Rhythm Family and a drum circle. Costumes and masks encouraged; all ages invited. Bring dance shoes or dance barefoot. 8:30 p.m., Dance Gallery Studio, 815 Wildt St. \$5-\$20 sliding scale (children 12 & under, free). 996-1772.

"Bob Marley Birthday Bash": The Blind Pig. Headliner is Universal Xpression, a Detroit-based band that plays reggae, soca, and calypso. Opening acts TBA. 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets \$8 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$10 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666; for information, call 996-8555.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

8 SUNDAY

***"Thoughts on Being the First Surgeon for NASA":** Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Talk by local physician Patricia Santy. 10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971-8638.

***Book Club:** Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. All invited to join a discussion of *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis*, Giorgio Bassani's wrenching tale of an aristocratic Italian Jewish family caught up in the nightmare of the Holocaust. Noshes. 10 a.m.-noon, Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975-9872.

Bridal Show: Brides-to-Be. Show and sale of innumerable products and services aimed at those planning a wedding, including such extravaganzas as dove and butterfly releases, cosmetic dentistry, and chocolate fountains. Noon-4 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. Tickets \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door. (810) 228-2700.

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Wisconsin. 1 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths under 18, \$1; U-M students with ID, free). 764-0247.

"Winter Wildlife": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Leslie Science Center staff lead a hike to see what the animals are up to. Also, storytelling and other activities. Hot cocoa. 1-3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$6 (families, \$25). 997-1553.

***"The Orchids of Guatemala":** Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Talk by club member Marilyn Lee. 1:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens auditorium, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 358-4148.

***"Winter Woods Walk: Exploring a Beech Maple Forest":** Washtenaw County Parks and

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music for kids



Mister Laurence Rejuvenilia

There was an article in the *New York Times* last fall about the advent of a new social genre: the juveniles. This boisterous breed is made up of adults who gleefully out their inner kid, revel in childish pursuits, turn the lunch boxes of youth into fashionable purses, and invite their friends over for Lego parties. I know a few of them. Whether juveniles are the escapist by-product of grim times or just express a simple longing for the long ago I can't really say, but I suspect they'd be one of several demographics who'd snap up Mister Laurence's new CD, *Pure Gibberish*, and spin it senseless.

After having released a massive oeuvre as rock musician, performance artist, dad, and other titles too abstract to describe, Ann Arbor-based musician Laurence Miller has found surprising success writing and performing music for kids. I caught his act quite by chance at Nicola's Books a number of years ago and wrote about it for the Observer. Since then he's been a busy boy, releasing several CDs, performing all over southeast Michigan, and writing song after song.

The music of Mister Laurence is dark and strange and ignores all rules of children's music—such as simplicity, repetition, not too many big words. If they didn't know his songs were intended for kids, some neopunk band might cover them.

The album kicks off with a rollicking welcome by the man in charge, who sounds like a blend of addled great-uncle, psycholinguist, and general goofball. The title song is a complex ditty filled with instructions for talking nonsense, filled with unexpected chords, that signature Mister Laurence art house dissonance, bells, whistles, and synth weirdness. Kids will either adore it or listen to it gape-mouthed.

"Jack and Jill's Hill" is a journey into perky surrealism that asks what would happen if that fabled pair just never came back down. "Sticks and Stones" starts out like a Bach harpsichord sonata and devolves into a scary, pounding, growling plaint about verbal bullying. Brave *Kinder* might well stomp about the living room giving vent to all kinds of feelings when this track plays. It's like having your own personal giant in the house. This scary persona of Mister Laurence as monster hurtles back for "Mom and Dad Are Teething":

*Mom and Dad are teething
We know it really hurts
It's difficult at times it seems
For them to use their words!*

"The Typing Train" starts with a story of a magical typewriter and morphs into a kind of Laurie Andersonish trance song. One minute it's just charming, the next it's cool, and the next it's so bizarre the mind struggles to grab hold.

I personally would very much like to see Mister Laurence in a smoky bar, wearing his play-money shirt and singing his children's songs to a horde of gin-soaked art students. At the end of the night, he'd croon a lullaby, their eyes would slide shut, and their dyed heads would slowly fall to their chests.

Mister Laurence performs a concert for kids at Oz's Music on Saturday, February 7.

—Kate Conner-Ruben

Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a walk through a forest in WCPARC's newest natural area. 2 p.m., Vreeland Property, 8383 Vreeland Rd., 1/2 mile east of Prospect. Free. 971-6337.

★**"Books about Roses":** Huron Valley Rose Society. Great Lakes Roses owner Nancy Lindley discusses her new book, *Roses for Michigan* (copies available for purchase), and members and guests give short talks on their favorite rose books. Bring your book. Refreshments. 2 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 996-3892.

★**"Pittsfield's Part in the Underground Railroad Movement":** Pittsfield Township Historical Society. Rescheduled from January. Slide-illustrated talk by local historic preservationist Carol Mull, an expert on the local history of the Underground Railroad. Q&A. 2 p.m., Pittsfield Community Center, 701 W. Ellsworth. Free. 429-4517.

★**Kids Open Mike:** Oz's Music Environment. Kids of all ages and all musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. 2 p.m., Oz's Music Environment, 1922 Packard. Free; donations welcome. Reservations required. 662-8283.

★**Friends of Four-Hand Piano.** Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. 2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663-3942, 769-2105.

★**Shape Note Singing:** The Ark/Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America.

Songbooks available, but singers are encouraged to bring their own. 2-5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. 747-9644, 761-1451.

★**"Dances for Petersburg":** U-M Dance Company. See 5 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Side Man":** Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Spike Heels":** Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

★**"Leaving Iowa":** Purple Rose Theater. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

★**Astrology Study Group of Washtenaw County.** All invited to chat about astrology, share resources, delineate charts, and hear reports on astrology-related matters. 3-5 p.m., location TBA. Free. 434-4555.

★**"Divine Encounters, Earthly Delights":** U-M Museum of Art. Talk by UMMA Asian art curator Maribeth Graybill. In conjunction with the current exhibition of Indian art. 3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763-UMMA.

★**"Anything Goes":** Huron Players. See 6 Friday. 3 p.m.

★**EMU Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band:** EMU Music Department. Scott Boerma and Mark Waymire direct these music-student ensembles in a lighthearted, fast-paced collage concert showcasing the winners of the annual William Stewart Performance Competition. The program includes works by Giannini, Stamp, Mahr, and Lo Presti. 4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**"Bells Are Ringing":** First Presbyterian Church. First Presbyterian organist Carol Muehlig directs the church's 2 bell choirs, the Sanctus Choir

and the Gloria Ringers, in a family-oriented concert of music for bells and voices, ranging from classical to pop. Also, 2 Bible stories with bells and narrator. 4 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466.

★**"Brahms Gala":** Kerrytown Concert House. Local and area musicians perform an all-Brahms program that includes his intricate whirlwind Sonata for Cello and Piano in F Major, the formidable Piano Quartet in C Minor, short pieces, and a selection of songs. Performers: soprano Emily Benner, violinist Charles Avsharian, violist Julia Gish, cellist Peter Rejto, and pianists Michele Cooker and Louis Nagel. 4 p.m., KCH. \$10, \$15, & \$25. Reservations suggested. 769-2999.

★**Queer Fiction Book Club.** All invited to discuss *Running with Scissors*, Augusten Burroughs's harrowing memoir of a wildly dysfunctional childhood. 4:30-6 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 663-0036.

★**"Booked for Murder" Mystery Book Club:** Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss Eliot Patison's *A Skull Mantra*. 4:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 769-2149.

RFD Boys: Northfield Township Citizens for Responsible Growth. Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have several recordings, including *Live and Unrehearsed*, a 1994 Ark performance. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and wine included. A benefit for the NTCFRG. 5-8 p.m., 5510 Hellner (call for directions). \$40 (couples, \$75). Preregistration requested. 476-7958.

★**Michigan Chamber Players: U-M School of Music.** This U-M faculty ensemble performs Janacek's whimsical Concertino, Schubert's *Auf dem Strom*, and Brahms's Viola Songs and String Quintet no. 2. Performers: cellist Suren Bagratuni, bassoonist Richard Beene, mezzo-soprano Loretta Bybee, hornist Soren Hermanson, clarinetist Fred Ormand, soprano Martha Sheil, pianists Timothy Cheek and Martin Katz, violists Kathryn Votapek and Yizhak Schotten, and violinists Stephen Shipp, Yehonatan Berick, Andrew Jennings, and Diana Lungu. 6 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

★**"Israel and the Environment":** Jewish Federation of Washtenaw County. Talk by Heschel Center for Environmental Learning and Leadership (Israel) executive director Eilon Schwartz. 7:30 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

Ruth Cunningham and Ana Hernandez: St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Original sacred music by this New York-based vocal duo. Cunningham, a former member of the acclaimed vocal quartet Anonymous 4, plays baroque flute and sings with an ethereal sound. Hernandez, who has performed with the New York Philharmonic, has just released a meditation CD, *Eternal Spirit*. 7:30 p.m., St. Thomas, State at Kingsley. \$5 (students with ID, free). 761-8606.

Neil Woodward: The Ark. Traditional and original ballads and songs by this Detroit veteran who sings in a thickly textured, soulful voice, accompanying himself on 6- and 12-string guitars, steel guitar, harmonica, mandolin, fiddle, Autoharp, whistle, and banjo. Woodward was recently designated "Michigan's Troubadour" by the state legislature. Opening act is *The Cats and the Fiddler*, a Detroit-area folk ensemble. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$12.50 in advance at *Borders on Liberty*, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★**"The Snow Queen in Seven Stories":** Dreamland Theater. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

★**"A Thousand Clowns":** P.T.D. Productions. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

Dixboro United Methodist Church 5th Annual Film Festival. "13 Conversations about One Thing" (Jill Sprecher, 2001). Four poetic, interrelated urban stories about the impact that one's choices, even tiny ones, can have on a stranger's life. Followed by a discussion led by Dixboro UMC minister John Ferris. Pop and popcorn available. FREE. 665-5632. DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). 6:30 p.m. **Michigan Theater Foundation.** "Modern Times" (Charlie Chaplin, 1936). February 8, 10, & 13. Classic fable about dehumanizing technology. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, 4 p.m. "Elephant" (Gus Van Zant, 2003). February 8-13. No-frills documentary of a high school shooting. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

9 MONDAY

★**"Introduction to Computers I & II":** Ann Arbor District Library. February 9 & 10. Two-part hands-

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9 MONDAY EVENTS continued

on introduction to computers, with an emphasis on basic skills. 10 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Preregistration required. 327-8367.

★**"The Spirit of Harriet Tubman": Wild Swan Theater.** February 9-15. This award-winning local children's theater presents Toronto schoolteacher Leslie McCurdy, who performs her acclaimed one-woman play, a finalist for the Canadian 1999 Chalmers Award, exploring the life of Tubman from her experience as a slave to her work on the Underground Railroad. In celebration of African American History Month. A score of spirituals and period songs is performed live by acclaimed local musician Peter Madcat Ruth on harmonica and stringed instruments. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris J. Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$9 (children, \$7) in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, or to arrange tours or audio description, call 995-0930.

★**Social Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** February 9 & 23. All seniors age 55 & older invited to play this popular bridge format. No partner required. 12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

★**Saskia Sassen: U-M College of Architecture and Urban Planning Raoul Wallenberg Lecture.** Talk by this University of Chicago sociologist who calls digital networks "countergeographies of globalization." 5:30 p.m., Art & Architecture auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764-1300.

★**Avis Farms Toastmasters.** February 9 & 23. Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. A chance to develop confidence in speaking publicly. 7-9 p.m., 900 Avis Dr., conference room B, off S. State. Free to visitors. Dues: \$18 every 6 months (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of \$16). 332-1200.

★**"Is There a Job for Me in the World of IT?": Center for the Education of Women.** A panel discussion with speakers TBA on information technology careers. 7-9 p.m., CEW, 330 E. Liberty. Free. 998-7080.

★**The Buyer's Agent.** February 9 & 23. Real estate professionals lead discussions on first-time home buying. Today: "The 5 Most Dangerous Trends Facing Home Buyers Today." Also this month: "All about Mortgages for First-Time Buyers" (February 23). 7-8:30 p.m., The Buyer's Agent, 1900 W. Stadium. Free. Preregistration required. 662-6240.

★**"John Brown: Hero or Madman?": Ann Arbor Area Civil War Round Table.** Michigan Regimental Round Table member Jerry Maxwell discusses this militant abolitionist who organized the doomed raid on the Harpers Ferry arsenal in an attempt to instigate a widespread slave revolt. Also, raffle of Civil War-related items. Refreshments. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.). Free. 930-0617.

★**The Barony of Cynnarbar.** Every Monday except February 2. All invited to join this local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism to work on recreating different aspects of medieval culture, including combat, dancing, singing, clothing, and many other arts & crafts. 7 p.m., 1311 EECS, 1301 Beal, North Campus. Free. Information at cynnarbar.org.

★**"What a Difference a Place Makes: Jews and Christians East of the Euphrates": U-M Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk by Hebrew University Jewish history professor Isaiah Gafni. 7 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. Free. 615-1287.

★**"The Popularity of 'Buffy the Vampire Slayer'": Nicola's Books.** The award-winning sci-fi writer Sarah Zettel, author of the essay collection *Seven Seasons of Buffy*, leads a panel discussion on this popular TV show with 2 other local sci-fi writers, Steven Piziks and Anne Harris. 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662-4110.

★**"Members' Bourse": Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** All invited to buy, sell, and trade stamps. Also, auction of inexpensive stamps and covers. Door prize. 7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park and enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761-5859.

★**Dream Group.** February 9 & 23. All invited to join veteran local social worker Rebecca Mullen to discuss their dreams from Jungian, Buddhist, and other spiritual perspectives. 7:30 p.m., location TBA. Donation. 662-5925.

★**"Fixing Elections": St. Mary Student Parish.** Former state senator Alma Wheeler Smith and Michigan Focus on Reforming Elections member Craig Harvey discuss "get out the vote" efforts, voting ma-

chine scandals, and instant runoff voting. 7:30 p.m., St. Mary Student Parish, 331 Thompson. Free. 663-0557.

★**"The Secret of the Romantics": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society of America.** School of Speech and Drama (East Grinstead, England) director Christopher Garvey explores the nature of human consciousness as intimated in the works of English and German Romantic and American Transcendentalist poets. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Tickets \$15 (couples, \$25) in advance and at the door. 971-6217.

★**EMU Percussion Ensemble: EMU Music Department.** This music-student ensemble is joined by the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Percussion Ensemble. Program TBA. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**Seth Bernard: The Ark.** This local singer-songwriter is a Lake City, Michigan, transplant who writes clever, funny, and candidly insightful folk-, rock-, and jazz-based songs about his life. He has released a CD, *Hello Fellow Travelers*. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$11 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

FILMS

★**Michigan Theater Foundation. "Comic Masters Series."** See 2 Monday. Tonight: *Zelig* (Woody Allen, 1983) is a side-splitting pseudodocumentary about the fictional Leonard Zelig, a mysterious chameleon-like celebrity of the 1920s and 1930s. Woody Allen, Mia Farrow. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater. Times TBA. "Elephant" (Gus Van Sant, 2003). See 8 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

10 TUESDAY

★**"The Spirit of Harriet Tubman": Wild Swan Theater.** See 9 Monday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

★**"Meeting the Challenges of Caring for Aging Relatives": U-M Center for the Education of Women.** Talk by local social worker Janet Fogler. Noon-1:30 p.m., Michigan League Kalamazoo Room. Free. 998-7080.

★**"Sexual and Physical Victimization of Female Sex Workers: An Empirical Investigation": Institute for Research on Women and Gender.** Talk by Freie Universitaet Berlin psychology professor Hans Pant. Noon, Lane Hall room 2239. Free. 764-9537.

★**Materials Recovery Facility Monthly Open House: Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department.** February 10 & 14. Guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center. This month's special activities include a display on vermicomposting (indoor composting with worms). Also, February 14 only, a vermicomposting workshop (\$25; preregistration required). 3-5 p.m. (Feb. 10) & 10 a.m.-noon (Feb. 14), Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994-2807.

★**"Summer Paradise: The Role of Railway & Steamboat Lines in Promoting Vacation Travel": U-M Detroit Observatory.** Talk by U-M Clements Library assistant curator Clayton Lewis. 3 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. Free. 763-2230.

★**"Hannah Arendt on the Future of Europe": U-M Center for European Studies "Conversations on Europe."** Talk by EMU political science professor Joanna Vecchiarelli Scott. 4-6 p.m., 2609 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647-2743.

★**"Degrees of Freedom: Building Citizenship in the Shadow of Slavery": U-M Rackham Graduate School Distinguished University Professor Lecture Series.** Lecture by U-M history professor Rebecca Scott. Reception follows. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (3rd floor). Free. 615-0520.

★**"How to Market and Sell Your Work": Ann Arbor FiberArts Guild.** Local artists hold a panel discussion on marketing tips and tricks. Refreshments. 6:45 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665-0703.

★**"A Naturopathic Approach to Infertility": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local naturopathic physician Michele Loewe. 7-8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994-4589.

★**"The Relationship Between School District Socioeconomic Status, MEAP Scores, and the No Child Left Behind Act": Ann Arbor Area League of Women Voters.** Talk by EMU educational psychology professor Nelson Maylone. Preceded by refreshments and socializing. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 665-5808.

★**"Being Multiracial in America": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M grad Elizabeth Atkins Bowman, a best-selling romance novelist, and U-M senior librarian Karen Downing discuss their experiences



Canadian Brass performs a Valentine's Day concert of classical and pop works at Hill Auditorium.

growing up in multiracial families and its influence on their professional work. In conjunction with the 2004 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads program. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

***Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group:** U-M English Department. All age 21 & older invited to a discussion of *The Crying of Lot 49*, Thomas Pynchon's bleak, creepy study of paranoia in society. Sherry & snacks served. 7-9 p.m., 1318 Markley Hall, 1503 Washington Hts. Free. 764-2553.

***"What We Do for Love":** U-M Musical Theater Program. U-M musical theater grad student Steve McGhee directs fellow students in a Valentine cabaret featuring a mix of musical theater and pop songs. Also, silent auction of goods and services donated by local artists, merchants, and restaurants. Proceeds benefit the mid-Michigan chapter of the National Society of Arts & Letters, an organization that supports young artists. 7 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. \$30 (students, \$20) at the door only. 995-3756.

***"Insurance Parity Legislation in Michigan":** National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Washtenaw County. Panel discussion with Jim Salisbury and other members of the NAMI Advocacy Committee on efforts to require health insurers to provide adequate coverage for mental illness. 7:30-9:30 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free. 994-6611.

***Sierra Club Book Club:** Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion of Jeffrey Smith's grim *Seeds of Deception: Exposing Industry and Government Lies about the Safety of the Genetically Engineered Foods You're Eating*. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 332-0207.

***"The End of Blackness":** Shaman Drum Bookshop. Journalist and attorney Debra Dickerson, a former U.S. News and World Report contributing editor, reads from her new book, a polemical critique of "race" as a bankrupt scientific and social construct, and explores the insidious, manipulative racial myths and prejudices still held by American blacks and whites. Signing. 8 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

***University Symphony Orchestra:** U-M School of Music. Students of Kenneth Kiesler take turns conducting this music-student ensemble in a program of world premieres by composing grad students. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Festival: The Ark. A rare chance to hear the sweet, silvery sounds of Hawaiian soul music performed by 3 of the islands' most celebrated acoustic guitarists: Cyril Pahinui, Dennis Kamakahi, and Cindy Combs, the first woman to record for the leading slack key label, Dancing Cat Records. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

***Tuesday Tickler:** The Heidelberg Club Above. See 3 Tuesday. 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Modern Times" (Charlie Chaplin, 1936). See 8 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. **"Elephant"** (Gus Van Zant, 2003). See 8 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

The Underworld. "Anime Night." See 3 Tuesday. The Underworld, 9-11 p.m.

11 WEDNESDAY

***"Excel Basics":** Ann Arbor District Library. February 11 & 18. 2-part introduction to the basics of using a worksheet. 9 a.m., AADL West Branch, Westgate Shopping Center. Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Preregistration required. 327-8367.

***"Cover to Cover":** Ann Arbor District Library. Book discussion group led by AADL staff focusing on popular books and authors. Today: *Living to Tell the Tale*, Edith Grossman's acclaimed new translation of volume 1 of the great Colombian novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez's memoirs. 10-11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 F. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Preregistration required. 327-4560.

***"The Spirit of Harriet Tubman":** Wild Swan Theater. See 9 Monday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

***"Emotional Synapses":** U-M Psychology Department. Talk by New York University neural science and psychology professor Joseph LeDoux. Noon-1:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 647-4952.

***"Perspectives on Advances in Cancer Epidemiology":** U-M School of Public Health. Talk by U-M epidemiology professor David Schottenfeld. 3-4 p.m., School of Public Health 1 Auditorium, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764-8094.

***Northside Readers Book Club:** Ann Arbor Parks Department. All invited to bring suggestions to the introductory meeting of this book discussion group. 6:30-7:30 p.m., Northside Community Center, 809 Taylor. Free. 994-2722.

***"Chic Lit for Teens":** Barnes & Noble. All girls ages 11-14 invited to discuss *Stargirl*, Jerry Spinelli's novel about a high-school boy who falls for an otherworldly, nonconformist girl. 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

***"The City's New Weed Ordinance":** Wild Ones. City natural areas preservation director David Borneman discusses the native plant landscaping exemption to be added into the city's existing weed ordinance. 7 p.m., Matthaei Botanical Gardens room 125, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 622-9997.

***Ann Arbor Magic Club.** All amateur and professional magicians invited to an evening of socializing and discussion of the magical arts. 7 p.m., Domino's Farms, Lobby G, 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. (off Earhart Rd. north of Plymouth Rd.). Free. 482-9253.

***"Celebration of Women Fly Fishers":** Trout Unlimited. This festive evening kicks off with a talk by aquatic entomologist Madeline Drake on "Bugs Trout Eat and Anglers Imitate." Also, a fishing-wear fashion show with local models showing off the latest women's fishing gear. An organizer notes, "This should draw a crowd." 7 p.m., Community High School, 401 N. Division. Free. 426-2975.

***Nevada Barr:** Nicola's Books. This popular mystery writer reads from *High Country*, her latest mystery starring the canny park ranger Anna Pigeon. Also, signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662-4110.

***"Reconciliation":** Bethlehem United Church of Christ. Bethlehem United Church of Christ music director Geoffrey Stanton introduces and shows a video of the premiere, in Minneapolis last spring, of his new oratorio, a multimovement work for choir, orchestra, gospel combo, and soloists. Its music combines jazz, pop, gospel, and classical styles. 7 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 665-6149.

***"Trees":** Ann Arbor Federated Garden Club. Slide-illustrated talk by Rik Haugen, a plant consultant to landscape architects. 7:30 p.m., Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 Dixboro Rd. Free. 665-7072, 998-3588.

***History Readers Group:** Nicola's Books. U-M history professor emeritus Gerald Linderman leads a discussion of his book *The World Within War: The American Combat Experience in World War II*. All invited. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 369-2499.

***"Love":** Shaman Drum Bookshop/Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute. Local psychoanalyst Joshua Ehrlich leads a discussion of Toni Morrison's new novel about exploring the intricate ties of love and hate that bind residents of a decaying African American oceanside resort. 8 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

Kate and Anna McGarrigle: The Ark. These 2 sisters from Montreal are known for their haunting, virtuosic vocal harmonies and for bright, fresh-spirited original songs like "Cool River" and "Heart like a Wheel." Their repertoire also includes French Canadian folk songs, Appalachian ballads, and some Stephen Foster songs, but even their originals reflect their absorption of rich and varied musical traditions. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance

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11 WEDNESDAY EVENTS continued

at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm Night": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Eyes on the Prize: Fighting Back, 1959-1962" (Henry Hampton, 1986). Part 2 of a 2-part documentary about the rise of the civil rights movement. FREE. 668-8480. Michigan Theater, 5 p.m. "Elephant" (Gus Van Zant, 2003). See 8 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

12 THURSDAY

*Euchre: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Sunday. All seniors age 55 & older invited to play this popular card game. 8-11:30 a.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

"The Spirit of Harriet Tubman": Wild Swan Theater. See 9 Monday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

*Family Games and Puzzles Afternoon: Arborland Borders. All invited to try new games like Word Thief, do floor or wooden puzzles, and play checkers, dominoes, or Monopoly. Kids must be accompanied by a parent. 4-5 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

*Anne Carson: U-M English Department. Poetry reading by this Canadian-born U-M English professor, noted for her novel in verse *Autobiography of Red*, a contemporary retelling of the myth of Hercules and the monster Geryon. 5 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 615-3710.

*Art Guys: U-M School of Art Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Talk by these wacky self-appointed "contemporary court jesters" from Houston whose multimedia projects include stacking pennies, drawing with a floor broom that has pencils for bristles, and putting 1,000 coats of paint on a telephone. 5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 763-UMMA.

*"Nutrition for Women": Association for Women in Computing. Talk by local nutritionist Vicky Nelson. Light refreshments. Followed by informal networking. 6 p.m., IT Zone, 330 E. Liberty. \$10 (members & students, \$5). Preregistration required at awc-aa.org. 930-7854.

"Moon over Buffalo": Friends of the Michigan League. February 12-15. Local theater veteran Nancy Heusel directs a dessert (February 12) and dinner (February 13-15) theater production of Ken Ludwig's madcap farce about a washed-up B-movie acting couple touring the 50s theatrical circuit. They get an unexpected last stab at stardom when they learn that a major director plans to attend one of their performances, but everything that could go wrong does. Stars local theater veterans James Nissen, Robin Barlow, Rachel Urist, Lesli Weston, Kyle Marie, Kathryn Hunt, Mark Heusel, and Steve Cooper. Part of the proceeds goes to U-M scholarships. 6 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Tickets (includes dessert) \$25 (students, \$15) on Feb. 12 & \$50 (includes dinner) on Feb. 13-15 in advance only. The Feb. 15 performance is sold out. 647-7463.

U-M Women's Basketball vs. MSU. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths under 18, \$1; U-M students with ID, free). 764-0247.

"Strong Ales": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about some 2 dozen strong ales. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. 7-9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets \$25 in advance and (if available) at the door. 213-1393.

*"Parrots in South America": Ann Arbor Cage Bird Club. Club members Tanya O'Connor and Priscilla Old discuss their trip to South America as part of a World Parrot Trust tour. Refreshments. Bring your bird. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main. Free. 662-4582.

*"Tips for Researching African American Ancestors": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by Washtenaw Community College sociology and African American genealogy teacher Rita Hampton. 7-8 p.m., AADL West Branch, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 327-4200.

*"True to Our Roots: Fermenting a Business Revolution": Ann Arbor District Library. Fetzter Winery (California) president Paul Dolan discusses his book and outlines the 6 guiding managerial principles he discovered and developed at Fetzter. Signing. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. Space limited; first come, first seated. 327-4200.

*Thursday Tour: U-M Museum of Art. February 12 & 19. Docent-guided tours. Today: *Divine Encounters, Earthly Pleasures: Twenty Centuries of Indian Art*. Also this month: *Surrealism from the Collections* (February 19). 7 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763-UMMA.

*Francesca Delbanco: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This young novelist, the daughter of novelist and U-M creative writing professor Nicholas Delbanco, reads from *Ask Me Anything: A Novel*, her debut novel about a 26-year-old aspiring actress who comes to New York City, where she lands a day job as an advice columnist for *GirlTalk* magazine and gets caught up in an affair with a suave theater underwriter who is also the father of her best friend. Signing. 7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

*"The Long Shadow of Little Rock": U-M MLK Symposium. Talk by Ernest Green, a former assistant secretary of housing under President Carter and one of the "Little Rock Nine," the first black students to attend the newly integrated Central High School in 1957. 7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 615-3034.

*"Symbols of Power and Political Pilgrimage in Central Asia: The Blue Stone (Kök Tash) of Samargand": Turkish Studies Colloquium: Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. Talk by visiting history professor Ron Sela. 7:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0350.

"Bye, Bye, Birdie": Burns Park Players 20th Annual Production. See 6 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

*"God of Matter and Antimatter": U-M Campus Chapel. Talk by Harvard physics professor Gerald Gabrielse. 8 p.m., 1040 Dana Building, 430 East University. Free. 668-7421.

"Above Ground Poetry, Art, & Jazz Sessions": Ghost Dog Press. Readings by Florida poet Jimmy Nil Fishhawk, Detroit poet Willie Williams, and local poet Jake Kaida, who is accompanied by the Ghost Dog Trio jazz ensemble. Also, an art exhibit by the 555 Collective. 8 p.m., Above Ground Hair Studio, 302B S. State (second floor, next to Potbelly). \$3.

Martin Hayes & Dennis Cahill: The Ark. Artful, contemplative adaptations of traditional Irish music by the duo of guitarist Cahill, a Chicago native whose parents emigrated from county Kerry, and fiddler Hayes, known for the slow, lyrical style derived from his native county Clare. The *New York Times* calls their music "a Celtic complement to Steve Reich's quartets or Miles Davis's *Sketches of Spain*." 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

*"Travelogue: Trekking to Everest and Beyond": Of Global Interest. Local adventure tour company owner Heather O'Neal gives a slide-illustrated talk about traveling in Nepal and trekking to the Mount Everest base camp. 8 p.m., 120 Eighth St. Free. 369-3107.

*"Madness in Valencia": U-M Basement Arts Theater. February 12-14. U-M student Taryn Fixel directs the classic Spanish playwright Lope de Vega's romantic comedy about 3 pairs of mental asylum inmates who find love. Evening time TBA, Arena Stage (Frieze basement), 105 S. State. Free. 764-6800.

Hilary Hahn: University Musical Society. See review, p. 69. UMS debut of this Grammy-winning violin prodigy voted "America's Best Young Classical Musician" by *Time* magazine. Admitted to Philadelphia's Curtis Institute of Music at age 10, Hahn debuted with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra a year and a half later and today tours internationally. Known for her clarity and warmth of tone and what one critic called "oomph," Hahn is accompanied tonight by pianist Natalie Zhu. Program: Ysaye's affecting Sonata no. 3, Bach's flowing Partita no. 2, and Mozart's sparkly Violin Sonatas in G Minor and A Major. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$50 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

"The Quick-Change Room": U-M Theater Department. February 12-15. U-M drama professor Philip Kerr directs U-M theater students in this fiercely funny, culturally provocative comedy about the struggle between artistic integrity and commercial viability during perestroika, written by the award-winning playwright Nagle Jackson shortly after he became the first American stage director to work in the former Soviet Union. In the waning days of the Soviet regime, a state-run theater, saddled with a shrinking audience and a leading lady past her prime, attempts to turn things around with a production of *The Three Sisters*. But even Chekhov is not immune to the ravages of capitalism, and his once sacred play is given a commercial spin. 8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Tickets \$15 & \$20 (students, \$8) at the Michigan League Box Of-



Jacksonville-based veteran comedian Allyn Ball brings his punk attitude to the Comedy Showcase Feb. 19.

Save your seat in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-0450.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday, 8 p.m.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"A Thousand Clowns": P.T.D. Productions. See 5 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday, 8 p.m.

Tracy Smith: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. February 12-14. Ann Arbor debut of this up-and-coming Canadian stand-up comic known for her sharply written, bittersweet observations about the travails and absurdities of the relations between the sexes on the "mean streets of Singletown." Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

U-Club Poetry Slam. An open mike for local poets, followed at 9 p.m. by competitive readings by 10 U-M and EMU poets, from which a panel of 5 judges picks the winner. Tonight's theme is erotic poems. Coffee available. Note: People not affiliated with the U-M are not admitted to the Michigan Union after 9 p.m., but if you arrive before 9 p.m., you may remain through the end of the evening. 8:30 p.m., Michigan Union U-Club. \$2. 763-3202.

Benvenuto & Russo: The Blind Pig. Inventive, rhythmically exuberant jam-oriented jazz-funk by the popular New York City duo of organist Marco Benvenuto and drummer Joe Russo. 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets \$8 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$10 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666; for information, call 996-8555.

FILMS

MTF. "Elephant" (Gus Van Zant, 2003). See 8 Sunday, Mich., times TBA. **Projectorhead. "Vertigo"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1958). Hitchcock's best film is a haunting thriller about a retired cop hired to tail a woman who ends up leading him to an unexpected destination. James Stewart, Kim Novak. FREE. 615-0445. **Modern Languages II** (812 E. Washington). 7 p.m. **Washtenaw Community College "Diversity at Home and Abroad."** Monthly series of films that address alternative points of view. Today: **Dreams**, Akira Kurosawa's mesmerizing 1990 set of 8 tales, based on his own dreams, that progress from medieval Japan to a postapocalyptic wasteland. FREE. 973-3737. **College Mini Theater** (Student Center Bldg.), 7 p.m.

13 FRIDAY

"Tiny Tot Times": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Hands-on science activities and free play for kids ages 1-3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$5 per child. 997-1553.

Storytime: Learning Express. February 13 & 27. Stories, other activities, and a snack for kids ages

2-4, 10 a.m., Learning Express, Westgate Shopping Center. \$1 materials fee. Space limited; preregistration required. 997-0707.

"The Spirit of Harriet Tubman": Wild Swan Theater. See 9 Monday, 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

***The Yiddish Group: Jewish Community Center.** All invited for readings and discussion of Yiddish literature selections TBA. Also, singing of Yiddish songs. 1:30-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

***"24-Hour World-Healing Peace Generator."** All invited to stop by for 30 minutes or more for silent meditation on world peace, forgiveness, cooperation, and joy. 6 p.m. on Feb. 13 to 6 p.m. on Feb. 14, Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. Free. 971-8576.

***Umoja Book Club: U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies.** All kids age 7 & older invited for storytelling, related activities, and individualized reading, with supervision by U-M students and CAAS faculty. 6 p.m., 4701 Haven Hall, 505 S. State. Free. 764-5518.

***Ice Carving Exhibition: Main Street Area Association/Ann Arbor Culinary Association.** February 13 & 14. Members of the U-M student Ice Carving Team fashion huge blocks of ice into elaborate, twinkling sculptures, which remain on display as long as the weather holds. 6-10 p.m. (Feb. 13), noon-8 p.m. (Feb. 14), Main Street area. Free. 668-7112.

Psychic Fair: Psychic Visions Network. February 13 & 27. Area psychics offer readings using tarot, astrology, numerology, crystals, and other methods. Fees vary but are usually around \$30 for a 30-minute (or longer) session. 6 p.m.-midnight, Comfort Inn, 2455 Carpenter. \$5 admission. 320-7704.

"Moon over Buffalo": Friends of the Michigan League. See 12 Thursday, 6 p.m.

"Friday Night Live": Ann Arbor Parks Department Youth Outreach Program. Supervised dance party for middle (7-10 p.m.) and high school (10 p.m.-1 a.m.) students. DJs play a variety of current R&B, rock, rap, and pop. 7 p.m.-1 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$5. 997-1615.

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Miami (Ohio). February 13 & 14. 7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. \$12-\$17. 764-0247.

***"Women Composers and Painters": Older Lesbians Organizing.** All lesbians invited to join a discussion. Also, a February 28 potluck (call for info). 7:30 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun. Free. 482-2996.

"Bye, Bye, Birdie": Burns Park Players 20th Annual Production. See 6 Friday, 7:30 p.m.

***Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** February 13 & 27. All invited to join this ongoing study group to discuss Rudolf Steiner's play *The Portal of Initiation*. Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. 8-9:30 p.m., 33 Ridgeway (1 block east of the Arb entrance on Geddes). Free. 662-6398.

2nd Friday Advanced English Frolic: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. English country dancing for experienced dancers. Fast pace, with limited walk-throughs. Caller and band TBA. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$8 (AACTMAD members, \$7). (313) 937-1552.

***EMU Symphony Orchestra: EMU Music Department.** Kevin Miller conducts this music-student orchestra in Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 4. Also, the University Choir and soprano Glenda Kirkland join the symphony for a performance of Rutter's Requiem. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

***Contemporary Directions Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** Jonathan Shames leads this adventurous music-student ensemble in nationally acclaimed U-M composition professor Bright Sheng's *Two Songs from the Sung Dynasty*, Magnus Lindberg's energetic *Engine*, and Shostakovich's String Quartet no. 15. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 763-4726.

***Chamber Choir and University Choir: U-M School of Music.** Christopher Kiver conducts the University Choir in Gorecki's glorious *Totus Tuus* and Bernstein's serene *Chichester Psalms*. Jerry Blackstone and Sara Guttenberg conduct the Chamber Choir in works by Mendelssohn and Dove. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

***The Muse String Quartet: U-M Residential College.** Debut concert by this ensemble of Detroit-area musicians led by cellist Katri Ervamaa, the new Residential College music program chair. Other members are violinists Kyoko Kashiwagi and Liz Rowen and violist Eva Stern. Program: Dvorak's *American String Quartet* and Mozart's *Hunt Quartet*. 8 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-9960.

"Hanh Trinh (Journey)": Dem Viet Nam (U-M Vietnamese Student Association). U-M students

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Ancient Secrets of the Masters Revealed The "True Spirit" of the Martial Arts

Dear Friends,

My name is Keith Hafner. I'm the owner of "Keith Hafner's Karate" on Main St. in Ann Arbor. I have been teaching Stress Free, Confident Lifestyle Strategies to professionals just like yourself, at the same location, for twenty-five years. During that time "Keith Hafner's Karate" has become one of the largest and most successful Martial Arts schools in the world!

One question I hear a lot is "Master Hafner, what is the true meaning of Martial Arts?" It's a great question.

When I was a kid in the Martial Arts, I was so impressed with the skills and the demeanor of the advanced students...the Black Belts. I admired both their superior physical skills and their "attitude."

As I became a serious student of the Martial Arts, though, I began to look a little deeper. While the Black Belts had admirable physical skill, and were highly skilled in all aspects of self-defense, they also had an extra quality that distinguished them from most of the other people I had known.

You might call it charisma.

Not only were these Black Belts tougher and more skilled than everybody else... they were also nicer, more compassionate, and more enjoyable to be around than everyone else.

It took me by surprise! Up to that point in my life, I had seen the "tough side" of toughness. What a wonderful discovery... seeing the kindness, the humility, and the gentleness of these men who I looked up to as heroes!

We've all known guys who are tough. And we've all known guys who are nice. But the guys

who are both tough and nice are hard to find.

To me, these somewhat rare individuals represent the "True Spirit of the Martial Arts."

A serious Martial Artist is a gentleman at all times.

He is not a show-off, nor a bully, he does not seek to dominate others.

Instead, he is compassionate; he is considerate; he has genuine humility; he is a good listener; he respects others.

In short, he is quick to put the needs of others ahead of his own.

This is the "True Spirit of the Martial Arts!"

Yours in Black Belt Excellence,

Keith Hafner
Keith Hafner

P.S. Interested in discovering what Martial Arts can do for you? I'm offering a Free One-week Trial Membership at "Keith Hafner's Karate." These are Private Lessons... just you and the teacher. I'll even toss in a free Karate uniform.

If you would like to register, just call us at 734-994-0333 and ask for Melanie. Classes fill quickly, so call soon!



13 FRIDAY EVENTS continued

perform a cultural variety show of traditional Vietnamese performing arts, including dances with hats, teacups, and scarves. 8 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. Tickets \$10 (students, \$8; members, \$5) at the door only. 678-1652.

"17th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. February 13-15. Storytelling continues to enjoy a renaissance as a form of popular entertainment, and the Ark's annual festival features performances by top-notch storytellers from around the country and the state. Tonight's headliner is Bill Harley, a Massachusetts songwriter and storyteller with an off-center point of view whose humorous commentaries have been featured on NPR's *All Things Considered*. Opening acts are Janice DelNegro, a University of Illinois Center for Children's Books director whose stories focus on women's power and creativity, and 1997 National Storyteller of the Year Laura Pershin Raynor, a popular Ann Arbor District Library storyteller. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 (evening concerts) & \$10 (children's concert) in advance at Liberty Borders, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Brighton Beach Memoirs": EMU Theater Department. February 13-15 & 19-21. EMU drama professor Terry Heck Seibert directs in Neil Simon's Tony Award-winning semiautobiographical comedy, a witty coming-of-age tale about Eugene Jerome, a 15-year-old aspiring writer obsessed with baseball and girls who is growing up in a large Jewish family in 1930s New York. The cast of EMU drama students is joined by Purple Rose Theater artistic director Guy Sanville as the patriarch of the Jerome family. 8 p.m., Sponberg Theater, Ford St., EMU campus, Ypsilanti. (Take Huron River Dr. east to Lowell St. Take Lowell to Ford St. and turn right onto Ford. The theater is on the left, with parking on the right.) Tickets \$12 in advance up to 30 minutes before the show; \$14 at the door. Group discounts available. 487-1221.

"Madness in Valencia": U-M Basement Arts Theater. See 12 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

"The Quick-Change Room": U-M Theater Department. See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"A Thousand Clowns": P.T.D. Productions. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Tracy Smith: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

The Sights: The Blind Pig. Nationally acclaimed Detroit band that plays vintage Detroit rock 'n' roll, a la the Stooges and the MC5. Opening acts are The Waxwings, a Detroit pop-rock band, and The Avatars, a local garage rock band. 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets \$8 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$10 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666; for information, call 996-8555.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Fog of War" (Errol Morris, 2003). February 13-19. Absorbing interview with Robert McNamara, who reminisces about his early life and his service as Secretary of Defense under John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"Elephant"** (Gus Van Zant, 2003). See 8 Sunday. Mich., times TBA. **"Modern Times"** (Charlie Chaplin, 1936). See 8 Sunday. Mich., times TBA.

14 SATURDAY

Valentine's 5 Km Fun Run and Walk: Ann Arbor Track Club. 9 a.m., Gallup Park meeting room, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). \$10 (members, \$5) in advance, \$15 (members, \$10) day of race. 663-9740.

***Restoration Work Day: U-M Nichols Arboretum.** All invited to help Arb director Bob Grese and Arb staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided; bring loppers or pruners if you wish. 9 a.m.-noon, meeting location TBA. Free. 998-9540.

Huron Gun Collectors. February 14 & 15. Some 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment, including antiques and collectibles. Food concessions. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Admission \$4. (810) 227-1637.

34th Annual Show: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. February 14 & 15. The Midwest's largest model railroad flea market draws model railroaders, collectors, and train buffs from around the country and Canada to display, trade, and sell model railroad equipment and memorabilia on over 500 vendor tables. Also, display of model train operating layouts. Food available. Proceeds used to restore and maintain Dexter's railroad depot. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sat.), 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (Sun.), Saline High School gymnasium, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. \$5 (kids under 10 with adult, free). 426-5100.

***18th Annual Winter Fleece Fair: Spinners' Flock.** A chance to stock up on all kinds of rare and unusual yarns and fibers, including Michigan-made wools and "exotics" such as yak, llama, mohair, alpaca, and angora, as well as silk, cotton, and linen. Also, woven, knitted, and felted items and related supplies, and sheepskins and pelts. Spinning and weaving demos. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Beach Middle School, 445 Mayer Dr., Chelsea. Free admission. Wheelchair-accessible. 475-2306, 769-1657.

***"Exploring Biodiversity: Habitat Home": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library.** February 14, 15, & 18 (at various library branches) & 22 (at the U-M Exhibit Museum). Family-oriented program exploring how animals depend on their habitats. Includes a take-home project to make your backyard welcoming to plants and animals. 10:30-11:30 a.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall, & 2-3 p.m., Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Packard & Stone School rds.). Free. Preregistration required. 327-4200.

***Saturday Morning Physics: U-M Physics Department.** Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M and guest faculty on cutting-edge research. Today: Berkeley astronomer Ken Croswell gives a slide-illustrated talk on "Magnificent Mars!" Breakfast refreshments. 10:30-11:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 501 East University. Free. 764-4437.

***American Girl Club: Barnes & Noble.** All girls ages 7-12 invited to delve into the world of the American Girl collection of historical dolls. This month's discussion book is *Saba: Under the Hyena's Foot*, Jane Kurtz's tale about a 12-year-old country girl who is kidnapped when she is caught up in royal intrigue in 1840s Ethiopia. 11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

***Madbook Club: Madstone Theaters.** All invited to discuss Charles Frazier's best-selling Civil War romance *Cold Mountain*. 11 a.m., Madstone Theaters lounge, Briarwood mall. Free. 994-5221.

***"Prehistoric Encounters": U-M Exhibit Museum.** Family-oriented program of hands-on activities exploring prehistoric phenomena. Activities may range from casting trilobites to making dinosaur casts out of cornstarch to blasting off volcanoes. Noon-2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes. Free. 764-0478.

***"Count Basie at the Piano": U-M School of Music.** Lecture-demonstration by Hank Jones, a Mississippi-born, Pontiac-bred jazz pianist who was recently featured on NPR's *Jazz Profiles* series. 1 p.m., Blanche Anderson Moore Hall, 1100 Baitz, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

Victorian Valentine Tea: Kempf House Museum. February 14 & 15. An elegant, traditional tea served on the Kempf House's antique silver service. The menu also includes a selection of sweets and savories. Period attire welcome. This popular annual event usually sells out in advance. 1:30 & 3:30 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. \$18. Reservations required. 994-4898.

***"Neat Crafts and Nifty Books": Arborland Borders.** Kids can make a craft or draw pictures while a Borders staffer discusses the best new kids books. 2-3 p.m., Borders, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

***"Strawberry Shortcake Friendship Party": Barnes & Noble.** All kids ages 5-10 invited to create a valentine and enjoy a snack. 2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 973-0846.

***"All Kinds of Families": Ann Arbor District Library/U-M Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Affairs.** Storytime and craft program exploring the common threads of respect, understanding, and love woven through different kinds of families. 2-2:45 p.m., AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

***"Heart Burns!: An Anti-Valentine Program for Teens": Ann Arbor District Library.** All middle and high school students invited to "decelebrate" Valentine's Day by creating hostile slogans for candy hearts, decorating broken cookies, making a dead flower arrangement, and more. 2-3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

"The Spirit of Harriet Tubman": Wild Swan Theater. See 9 Monday. 2 p.m.

***Barbara Brodsky: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore &**

classical music

Hilary Hahn Practically perfect

Beyond all argument, Hilary Hahn is an amazing young (twenty-four) violin virtuoso. Her 1999 recording of Bach's Ciaccona for Sony Classics was a technical tour de force that quickly became one of the best-selling classical discs of the year. Hahn went on to record many of the big hits of the standard repertoire; she won a Grammy in 2002 for her recording of the Mendelssohn Concerto. Now Hahn has signed with Deutsche Grammophon to record the rest of the standard concerto repertoire along with chamber music and other projects. At a time when major artists are searching for record deals, Hahn's success is almost as astounding as her virtuosity.

As anyone who hears her play the Ciaccona on Thursday, February 12, at Hill Auditorium will discover, Hilary Hahn is an astonishing performer. Her legato is like butter, her vibrato like honey. Her portamento is discreet but very, very effective. Her tone is rich and deep. Her bow arm is strong and sensitive. Her dexterity is blindingly brilliant. Her interpretations are brightly polished. Whatever you want, Hahn's got it, and whatever you can do with it, Hahn's done. The only thing she lacks is maturity.

But maturity is a big thing to lack in the Ciaccona. As well as being the supreme test for every violinist, the Ciaccona is one of the most sublimely inspired works ever composed for any instrument. Hahn's playing is practically perfect in every way, but virtuosity is not the whole thing for a violinist. The hard part is the sublime inspiration. And while sublime inspiration can strike at any age, the capacity to realize and communicate that inspiration does come with age.



For all her astounding skill, Hahn's recording of the Ciaccona is still cold and severe, a demonstration of her technique but not much else. And Hahn's subsequent recordings have gotten so hard as to be almost fierce. For all her practical perfection, Hahn has yet to sound the depths of the music she records.

Along with the Bach, Hahn will be performing two sonatas by Mozart and one by Ysaye. The Mozarts are light and delightful, and the Ysaye supervirtuosic. While it will be interesting to hear what Hahn does with delightful and supervirtuosic pieces, the sublime Ciaccona is what everyone will be there to hear Hahn play.

—James Leonard

Tea Room Salon 2003. The guiding teacher of the Deep Spring Center of Ann Arbor reads from her new book about the spirit she channels, *Presence, Kindness, and Freedom: Aaron's Teachings on Living from an Open Heart*. Also, signing. 4 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

"Animania": U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from TV series. Tonight: episodes of *The Eternity You Desire*, a high-school romantic drama; *Scrapped Princess*, a fantasy drama about a lost-at-birth regent; *Traveler of Darkness with Hat and Books*, a fantasy-adventure about a girl traveling in magic realms; *Moon Princess*, a fantasy horror about a high school boy with the Gaze of Death; and *Wedge of Interval*, a poignant sci fi fantasy about a megalomaniac computer. Raffle. U-M campus admission policy: No one under 18 admitted without an adult. 4 p.m.-midnight, MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer. Free. www.umich.edu/~animania.

"Moon over Buffalo": Friends of the Michigan League. See 12 Thursday. 6 p.m.

"Dandia Dhamaka" Intercollegiate Raas Competition": U-M Raas Association/Indian American Student Association. A spectacular evening of Indian raas dance by college dance teams from around the nation. The energetic, playful raas style originated in ancient times in the northwestern Indian state of Gujarat as part of the Navratri festival that honors Hindu goddesses. It involves rotating circles of elaborately dressed male and female singing dancers who pepper the dance with stunts and flourishes and gesture with dandia, or decorated rods. 6:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$10 & \$12 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Minnesota. 7 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. \$3 (youths age 12 & under, \$1; U-M students, free). 763-2159.

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Utah. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths age 12 & under, \$1; U-M students, free). 763-2159.

"Heart of the Lion Valentine's Dinner Dance":

Ann Arbor Evening Lions Club. Steak, chicken, or vegetarian dinner, followed at 9 p.m. by dancing to late-30s swing and 40s R&B by the **II-V-I Orchestra**, a veteran local big band led by saxophonist David Swain. Proceeds benefit the Lions Club, a service organization that primarily helps the visually impaired. Cash bar. 7 p.m., Washtenaw Country Club, 2955 Packard, Ypsilanti. \$50. 741-4497, 827-0868.

"Mark Braun's Annual Birthday Bounce": Kerrytown Concert House. A popular tradition in which Ann Arbor's world-renowned Flint-born blues pianist Mark "Mr. B" Braun celebrates his birthday month. An exuberant, powerful performer whose repertoire includes both boogie-woogie and blues classics and originals in the same mold, Mr. B has performed and recorded with world-class artists such as the late drummer J. C. Heard and Detroit percussionist Roy Brooks. He recently released his first solo CD since 1984, *Mr. B Live at Kerrytown Concert House*. Accompanied by local roots guitarist and onetime fellow Steve Nardella Band member George Bedard. 7 & 9 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$10, \$15, & \$25. Reservations suggested. 769-2999.

"Bye, Bye, Birdie": Burns Park Players 20th Annual Production. See 6 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Women Hanging Out (WHO)": Washtenaw Rainbow Action Project. All lesbians and friends invited for a potluck (bring a dish to pass), games, recorded music, and socializing. 8-11 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 994-9867.

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the 40s through the 80s. Preceded at 7 p.m. by an introduction to basic dance steps and ballroom dancing styles by Sue Bareis, Washtenaw County's best-known ballroom dance instructor. All invited, singles as well as couples. Refreshments. 8-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. \$4. 822-2120.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Beginners welcome. 8-11 p.m., Webster Community Hall, across from Webster Church on Webster Church Rd. (1 mile south of North Territorial). \$7. 996-8359.

Scandinavian Couples Dance Party: Multicultural Folk Arts Center. Traditional turning couples dances, mainly from Sweden and Norway, including hambo, schottis, Boda polska, and Telespringar. With live music by Rumpetroll, a local band led by fiddler Bruce Sagan. No partner necessary. Hard-soled shoes strongly recommended. Snacks. Preceded at 7 p.m. by dance lessons. 8-10 p.m., Gretchen's House Learning Center gym, 2340 Oak Valley Dr. \$8. (517) 355-8329.

"Valentine's Ragtime Trot": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. The dreamiest dance event of the season. Come with a valentine or flirt with a new one, and dance to lively ragtime music by a band TBA. Vintage attire (see vintagedance.com/dress-rag.htm) encouraged but not required. Dancers of all abilities welcome. Refreshments. Also, \$5 preball workshops (free for those attending the ball) in ragtime basics, the tango, and the maxixe. 12:30-3:45 p.m. 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange Hall, Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$25. Preregistration required. 429-0014.

"Save a Heart Foundation Benefit Concert": Measure for Measure. EMU music professor Leonard Riccinto directs this lively 85-member local men's chorus in a wide-ranging concert that ranges from Handel's "Then round about the Starry Throne" to a set of American songs that includes "Ol' Man River," "Deep River," "No Man Is an Island," and the rollicking American folk song "Old Dan Tucker," which is accompanied by an ad hoc jug band made up of M&M members. 8 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Tickets \$20 (children 12 and under, \$10) in advance and (if available) at the door. 936-9134.

"Meditation Concert of Healing Chants." Critically acclaimed local soprano Norma Gentile performs the rhapsodic sacred chants of the 12th-century mystic Hildegard von Bingen. A *Critics' Choice* critic praised Gentile's "dark, rich voice" as a "wonderful vehicle for these pieces, and she sings with a commitment that reveals musical depths often hidden in some of the more academic recordings available on the market." Gentile performs by candlelight, accompanied by Tibetan singing bowls and audience humming. 8 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Tickets \$15 in advance and at the door. 330-3997.

Valentine's Day Concert: Canadian Brass (University Musical Society). This world-famous brass quintet charms audiences of all ages with its blend of classical and popular music and witty commentary. The group's repertoire span everything from Bach to Dixieland to original pieces. The players are top-notch musicians and top-notch entertainers whose attitude is summed up in tubast Charles Daellenbach's comment that "a good performance isn't enough—people have to go out feeling happy." Program: Frescobaldi's Toccata, highlights from Bizet's opera *Carmen*, Handel's Suite from *Water Music*, Gabrieli's Canzona, several Glenn Miller works, and more. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$40 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

Count Basie Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Grammy Award-winning ensemble led by trombonist Grover Mitchell, the 3rd person to lead the "ghost band" since Count Basie died in 1981. The group has been a who's who of jazz since its start in the 30s, with such stellar musicians as Freddie Green, Lester Young, and Billie Holiday. One of the stand-out musicians in the current lineup is drummer Butch Miles, who's known for what one critic called an "exquisite feel, fiery dynamics, and astonishing technique on regal display." The group's repertoire ranges from such classics as "April in Paris" and "One O'Clock Jump" to lesser-known works composed or arranged by Benny Carter, Quincy Jones, and Bob Ojeda. Opening act is the U-M Jazz Ensemble. 8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$25-\$40 (students with ID, \$15) in advance and at the door. 764-2538.

"17th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 13 Friday. Tonight's headliner is Donald Davis, a very popular storyteller from North Carolina whose stories include traditional mountain lore and contemporary tales about his neighbors and kin. Also, Dovie Thomason Sickles, a storyteller whose repertoire draws on the lore of her Kiowa Apache and Lakota relatives, and R. Craig Roney, a WSU education professor. 8 p.m.

Tilt. Steve Petersen leads this very popular local improv group, or "our scrappy little organization," in an evening of comic sketches in various styles. The performers springboard from a premise suggested by the audience into loopy situations riddled with surreal dialogue, all presented as serenely sane, similar to *Second City* routines and the TV show *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* All Tilt shows sell out, so get your tickets early. 8 p.m., Ann Arbor Civic Theater studio, 322 W. Ann. Wheelchair-accessible. Tickets \$5 in advance and at the door. 669-6241, 216-3958.

"Idosbucrum": Dreamland Theater. This music

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14 SATURDAY EVENTS *continued*

festivalette commemorates "Idosbucrum," which we are told is "the national holiday of Mixolydia, which celebrates all things goat." Includes performances by the local trance band Liquid Gods, avant-garde "sound sculptor" Misha Grey, and the pop-rock band Black Sky Combo. Also, a talk by People for the Erotic Treatment of Goats representative Phil Fiertucker, and a rare appearance by Reverend Shagwan of the Carnetarian Carnivalist Church, who is on hand "to bless your chest." 8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross St., Depot Town, Ypsilanti. \$10. 485-3454.

★"Madness in Valencia": U-M Basement Arts Theater. See 12 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

★"Brighton Beach Memoirs": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 8 p.m.

★"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 2 & 8 p.m.

★"The Quick-Change Room": U-M Theater Department. See 12 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★"A Thousand Clowns": P.T.D. Productions. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Tracy Smith: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 12 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

FILMS

Neutral Zone. "Trilogy Movie Nights." February 14, 21, & 28. Three nights of double bills. Tonight: "Star Wars" (George Lucas, 1977). The classic space saga. Also, "Evil Dead 1" (Sam Raimi, 1982). Enjoyably cheesy horror flick about kids camping in the woods. Cost TBA. 214-9995. Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main. Times TBA. MTF. "Fog of War" (Errol Morris, 2003). See 13 Friday. Mich., times TBA. U-M Center for Chinese Studies. "Crows and Sparrows" (Junli Zheng, 1949). Set in a Shanghai boarding house during the Chinese Civil War, the story of squabbling tenants who struggle vainly to keep their homes when a greedy Nationalist official plots to sell their building and run off to Taiwan. Mandarin, subtitles. No children under 12 admitted. FREE. 764-6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 8 p.m.

15 SUNDAY

★U-M Wrestling vs. Wisconsin. 1 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, Hoover at S. State. Free. 764-0247.

★"Defending Mohammad: Justice on Trial": Ann Arbor District Library "Sunday Edition." U-M law professor Robert Precht discusses his new book, a personal account of the 1993 World Trade Center trial at which he served as a defense attorney for the chief suspect, Mohammad Salameh. Bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea provided. Taped for repeat broadcasts on cable channel 17. 1-2 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★Family Day: U-M Museum of Art. Families can explore the current Indian art exhibit and try a hands-on activity. The afternoon's highlight is a dance performance (3-4 p.m.) by Madhavi Mai (see 5 Thursday) and an ensemble of dancers from her studio. The group performs works drawn from the classical Bharatanatyam style of south India. Live music by performers TBA. Afterwards, the dancers lead a movement session; kids should "be prepared to swim, fly, and creep in classical Indian style." 1-5 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763-UMMA.

★"17th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 13 Friday. Today: a family concert with 3 or 4 storytellers from the Friday and Saturday shows. 1 p.m.

★"Ypsilanti Historic Buildings": Washtenaw County Historical Society. Talk by Ypsilanti city councilman and former Ypsilanti Historic District Commission member Barry LaRue. 2-4 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Free. 662-9092.

★"Exploring Biodiversity: Habitat Home": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library. See 14 Saturday. 2-3 p.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Preregistration required. 327-8301.

Family Dance: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. John Freeman and David Williams call dances and lead party games. Live music by David West, Donna Baird, and Mark Williams. 2-4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$6 (family, \$12; Grange members, \$5; Grange family, \$10). 662-3371.

★"The Spirit of Harriet Tubman": Wild Swan Theater. See 9 Monday. 2 p.m.

★"Brighton Beach Memoirs": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 2 p.m.

★"The Quick-Change Room": U-M Theater Department. See 12 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

★"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

★"What's Jewish about a Moose?": Jewish Community Center Tu B'Shevat Family Program. Jewish Environmental and Nature Educators director Gabe Goldman presents an interactive environmental program for kids that includes nature arts and crafts, and sing-alongs. Refreshments. 3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$6 (members, \$4). Preregistration required. 971-0990.

★"The Now and Future Greek America: Strategies for Survival": U-M Classics Department Modern Greek Program Pallas Lecture. Talk by Queens College (CUNY) Greek American Project director (and U-M grad) Dan Georgakas, a prominent Greek American historian whose books include Detroit: I Do Mind Dying and New Directions in Greek American Studies. Reception follows. 3 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 936-6099.

★Euphonium & Tuba Ensemble: U-M School of Music. U-M tuba professor Fritz Kaenzig leads this music-student ensemble in a program of works for tuba ensembles. 3 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 763-4726.

★Student Recital: Concordia University. Performances by Concordia music students. Program TBA. 3:30 p.m., Concordia University Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995-4612.

★Stilyagi Air Corps Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss a sci fi book TBA. 4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. (313) 337-9908.

★"The History and Use of Masonry Ovens": Culinary Historians. Talk by Oakland University French language and literature professor David Jaymes. 4-6 p.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 662-9211.

★Dady Mehta: EMU Music Department. This EMU music professor performs Bach's English Suite no. 5 in E Minor, Beethoven's Variations in F Major, and Schumann's Symphonic Etudes. 4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★"Moon over Buffalo": Friends of the Michigan League. See 12 Thursday. 6 p.m.

★Xantippe: St. Thomas Catholic Church. This local trio of flutist Corinne Schat Hillebrand and 2 EMU faculty members, violinist Daniel Foster and cellist Diane Winder, performs chamber music by Handel and J. S. Bach. 7 p.m., St. Thomas Parish Hall, 517 Elizabeth at State. Free. 761-8606.

★River Raisin Ragtime Review. William Hayes leads this 12-member Tecumseh-based ensemble of area musicians in a program featuring music by African American composers, including works by Scott Joplin, James Europe, James Scott, and Eubie Blake. 5 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 423-1962.

Reverend Robert Jones: The Ark. The host of WDET's Blues from the Lowlands and an ordained Baptist minister, Jones is an excellent singer and guitarist, with a huge repertoire that draws on Delta, Texas, Chicago, and other blues traditions. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Henry Rollins: Clear Channel Entertainment. Solo spoken-word performance by the former lead singer of the seminal L.A. punk band Black Flag. Rollins's persona is a very unusual, surprisingly charming blend of psychotic rage and witty intelligence, and his spoken-word rants deploy poetry, oratory, and stand-up comedy to create an acoustic noise that's every bit as intense and enveloping as the music he used to make with his band. Rollins won a Grammy for his 1994 spoken-word CD Get in the Van. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$16.50 & \$20 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

★"A Thousand Clowns": P.T.D. Productions. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

2nd Saturday Swing Dance: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Dancing to recorded jump blues, swing, and big-band music. All welcome; no partner necessary. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by lessons (\$5). 8:30-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$5 (dance with lesson, \$7). 213-0537.

Pat McGee Band: The Blind Pig. Energetic, harmonically stirring acoustic rock by this critically acclaimed band from Richmond, Virginia, led by singer-songwriter McGee. Opening act is pop-rock singer-songwriter **Michael Tolcher**. 10:30 p.m. (doors open at 9 p.m.). *The Blind Pig*, 208 S. First. Tickets \$15 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$10 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666; for information, call 996-8555.

FILMS

Dixboro United Methodist Church 5th Annual Film Festival. "Death Becomes Her" (Robert Zemeckis, 1992). Dark comedy about social attitudes towards beauty that features a fading actress who makes a Faustian deal to reclaim enough youth to claw her romantic rival to shreds. Meryl Streep, Goldie Hawn, Bruce Willis. Followed by a discussion led by Dixboro UMC minister John Ferris. Pop and popcorn available. FREE. 665-5632. DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.), 6:30 p.m. MTF, "Fog of War" (Errol Morris, 2003). See 13 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

16 MONDAY

★"Introduction to Microsoft Word": Ann Arbor District Library. February 16 & 17. A 2-part hands-on introduction to this popular word-processing program. 10 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free (AADL noncardholders, \$10). Preregistration required. 327-8367.

★**Ice Cream Social:** Ann Arbor Senior Center. All seniors age 55 & older invited for ice cream and socializing. Also, showing of *Chicago*, Rob Marshall's 2002 film version of Fred Ebb & Bob Fosse's long-running vaudeville-style musical satire of the cult of celebrity set in the Roaring 20s. 12:15 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center. Free. 769-5911.

★"The War on the Environment: Historical Perspectives": U-M International Institute Science, Technology, & Society Program. Talk by University of Oregon sociology professor John Bellamy Foster. 4-5:30 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Free. 615-8482.

★**Keller Easterling: U-M College of Architecture and Urban Planning Wallenberg Lecture II.** Talk by this Yale architecture professor noted for her studies of the growth of suburbia from the Depression to 1960. 5:30 p.m., Art & Architecture auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764-1300.

★**Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. 6:45 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues). 426-3903.

★"Some of the Parts": Ann Arbor Women Artists. EMU art lecturer and Ford Gallery director Larry Cressman gives a slide-illustrated talk on his multimedia artworks. 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 995-2074.

★"The Ecology of Alaska and Prudhoe Bay": Michigan Botanical Club. Talk by Henry Ford Community College biology instructor Judith Kelly. All invited. 7:45 p.m., Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663-5667.

Jazz Ensemble: EMU Music Department. This music-student ensemble is joined by guest drummer **Tim Froncek**, a Grand Rapids Community College music teacher who has performed with the likes of Woody Herman and Bobby Shew. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$10 (students & seniors, \$8) in advance at the Quirk Auditorium Box Office and at the door. 487-1221.

★**University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Jonathan Shames conducts this music-student group in Beethoven's complicated *Egmont Overture*, Dvorak's lush Symphony no. 8, and a concerto performed by the winner of the music school's annual concerto competition. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

Gazsa: The Ark. This acclaimed ensemble performs traditional music and dance from the villages of Romanian Transylvania, where the music of the ethnic Hungarian majority also preserves aspects of the folkways of Romanians, Slovaks, Serbs, Croats, Ukrainians, Gypsies, and other groups. The group, which performs in gorgeous folk costumes, includes 6 musicians—2 violinists, a violist, a bassist, a cimbalom player, and a woodwinds specialist—and a professional dancing couple from the Budapest Ensemble. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Comic Masters Series." See 12 Monday. Tonight: *Purple Rose of*

Cairo (Woody Allen, 1983) is a comedy-fantasy about a lonely housewife who is startled when the matinee idol of her dreams literally walks off the screen and into her life. Mia Farrow, Jeff Daniels. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m. "Fog of War" (Errol Morris, 2003). See 13 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

17 TUESDAY

★"The State of Israel and the Prospects for Secular Jewishness": U-M Center for Judaic Studies. Talk by Hebrew University law professor Ruth Gavison. 3:30-5:30 p.m., 3050 Frieze, 105 S. State. Free. 763-9047.

★"Financial Integration, Exchange Rate Regimes in Central and Eastern European Countries, and Joining the European Monetary Union: Just Do It": U-M Center for European Studies "Conversations on Europe." Talk by Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (Paris) economist Mathilde Maurel. 4-6 p.m., 2609 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647-2743.

★"American Attitudes Towards the Death Penalty, 1950-2004": U-M Rackham Graduate School Distinguished University Professor Lecture Series. Lecture by U-M law and psychology professor Frank Murphy. Reception follows. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (3rd floor). Free. 615-0520.

"Ghost Hunters of Southern Michigan": American Business Women's Association MAIA Chapter. Networking (6 p.m.) and dinner (6:30 p.m.), followed by a PowerPoint presentation by local Ghost Hunters members of hair-raising pictures of bona fide ghosts and recordings of spirit voices (7:30 p.m.). 6 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$14. Preregistration required. 429-8585.

Ann Arbor Indoor Atlatl League: Michigan Atlatl Association. All invited to try their atlatl skills in 30-throw and 10-throw contests. Atlatl is a Nahuatl (Aztec) word for a Neolithic device used for throwing a spear or dart, a weapon that predates the bow and arrow by millennia. In Michigan, these weapons (under an unknown name) were used to kill mastodons and other large mammals. A limited number of loaner atlats are available; bring your own if you have one. 7-8:30 p.m., Wilderness Archery, 297 N. Maple. \$7. 913-6283, (810) 231-2314.

★**Drum Circle.** Local drummer Lori Fithian leads this exuberant intergenerational drum circle. Bring a drum or borrow one of hers. No experience necessary. 7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 426-7818.

★"The Mommy Myth: The Idealization of Motherhood and How It Has Undermined Women": Nicola's Books. U-M communications professor Susan Douglas discusses her study. 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662-4110.

★"Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?": Ann Arbor District Library. Panel discussion by local and Detroit-area middle and high school students on issues raised by Beverly Daniel Tatum's book, the focus of the 2004 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads program. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

SpiritSisters Women's Circle. All women invited to discuss spirituality, relationships, empowerment, metaphysics, and healing. Short meditation session. Also, bring divination tools, if you like. 7 p.m., Genesis Foundation (Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church), 2309 Packard. \$2. 741-0478.

★"Community Education Series": Dawn Farm. February 17 & 24. Talks on addiction issues by community experts. Today: local social workers James Balmer and Jason Schwartz discuss "Dialogue on Health Care for Addicts." Also this month: Dawn Farm program coordinator Jessica Tadsen on "Addiction and the Whole Person" (February 24). 7:30-9 p.m., EC-1 Education Center, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, 5305 Elliott Dr. Free. 485-8725.

★"Romp on the Tundra: Sierra Club Adventures in the Arctic": Huron Valley Sierra Club. Talk by club member Russ Taichman, an experienced Arctic tour guide leader. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 480-7751.

★**Fiction Readers Group:** Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion of *The Secret Life of Bees*, Sue Monk Kidd's Southern Gothic coming-of-age tale, set in South Carolina during the civil rights turmoil of the mid-60s, about a motherless 14-year-old girl on the lam with her African American nanny. 7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★"Holy Land: Christians in Peril": Hillel. Screening of Pierre Rehov's 2001 documentary about the exodus of 2 million Christians from the Middle East in the last 20 years. Followed by a panel discussion

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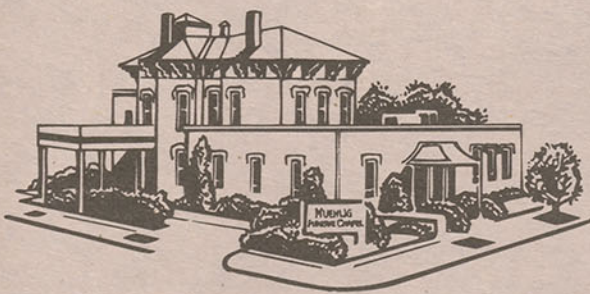
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17 TUESDAY EVENTS continued

with speakers TBA. 7:30 p.m., Hillel, 1429 Hill. Free. 769-0500.

"Quickening": Grasshopper Productions (Anthroposophical Society in America and Its Great Lakes Branch). This touring troupe from New York presents a eurythmy program of pieces exploring the majesty and vulnerability of trees that range from the Greek myth of Orpheus to contemporary reflections on our relationship with nature. It is set to poetry by Denise Levertov and music by Martinu and Madetoja. Eurythmy is an art initiated by Rudolf Steiner that uses movement and gesture to make speech and music visible. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner High School, 2230 Pontiac Trail. Tickets \$15 (couples, \$25) in advance and at the door. 971-6217.

Rufus Wainwright: Clear Channel Entertainment. The son of Loudon Wainwright III and Kate McGarrigle, this acclaimed young singer-songwriter specializes in lush, piano-based neocabaret pop ballads. *Rolling Stone* calls his new CD, *Want One*, "a record of breathtaking, eccentric opulence: champagne violins and gothic-drama electronics, cream-cake choirs, Fourth of July brass, and Wainwright's rough-silk voice, which sounds like a worn, inebriated diva sweeping down a staircase." 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$23 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

"The Dog Slam": Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. This midmonth affair for those for whom the long-standing 1st Tuesday (see 3 Tuesday listing) is not enough features open mike sessions and a variety of oddball ways of presenting poetry, including Midwest Poetry League contests, theme poetry, naked people poetry, and more. "We will leave no poem unread." 8-11 p.m., Heidelberg Rathskeller, 215 N. Main. \$5. For information, call Larry Francis at 426-3451.

***Karel Glastra van Loon: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** See review, right. This award-winning Dutch novelist, currently the U-M Dutch writer-in-residence, reads from the recently published English translation of his international best-seller *A Father's Affair*, a gripping, playfully erotic whodunit about a widower who, after learning that he has been infertile all his life, tries to discover the identity of the biological father of his 13-year-old son. Signing. 8 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

"Benefit Art Show": Ghost Dog Press. Florida poet Jimmy Fishhawk and local poet Jake Kaida read their works, and the jazz ensemble the Ghost Dog Trio plays jazz improvisations. Also, an exhibit of artworks by members of the 555 Collective. A benefit for Ghost Dog Press and the 555 Collective. 8 p.m., 555 Collective, 200 E. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. \$4.

Annie Gallup: The Ark. An Ann Arbor native who moved back to town 3 years ago from Asheville, North Carolina, Gallup is a highly regarded singer-songwriter who writes vividly imagined, emotionally intimate folk-style story songs. A fine fingerstyle guitarist, she's also a captivating singer, with a voice that's been described as blending "the throaty smoothness of early Joni Mitchell with a distinctive inflective twang that is closer to Lucinda Williams." Tonight she celebrates the release of her 6th CD, the song cycle *Pearl Street*. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$12.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

***EMU Sonic: EMU Music Department.** This indoor drum corps program features EMU brass, percussion, and color guard students. The music includes works by George Gershwin, Percy Grainger, and Mark Waymire. 8:30 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

Ann Arbor Ballroom Dance Club. All invited to join club members for ballroom dancing to recorded music. Note new location. 9-11 p.m., Michigan Ballroom, Country Creek Plaza, 7025 E. Michigan Ave. \$10. 662-5058, 665-3565.

"Tuesday Tickler": The Heidelberg Club Above. See 3 Tuesday. 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m.

FILMS

MTF, "Fog of War" (Errol Morris, 2003). See 13 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **The Underworld, "Anime Night."** See 3 Tuesday. The Underworld, 9-11 p.m.

18 WEDNESDAY

"The Morning Edition": Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce. This popular monthly program features a buffet breakfast and a series of 5-minute updates from local business and community leaders. Hosted by Michigan Theater executive director Russ

Collins. Speakers are U-M Health Management Research Center director **Dee Edington**, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments Data Center manager **Jim Rogers**, People's Food Co-op outreach and communications director **Laura Meisler**, Ann Arbor District Library Malletts Creek Branch director **Josie Parker**, Briarwood Sears general manager **Jay Shapiro**, and Ann Arbor Local Market vice-president for sales **Lynette Ferguson**. Video replays posted at annarborchamber.org. 7-8:45 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$25 (members, \$15). Preregistration requested. 214-0104.

"Drum Me a Story": Wild Swan Theater. February 18 & 19. This award-winning local children's theater presents its original collection of African trickster folk tales, including "Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock" and "How the Turtle Got Its Shell." Cast: **Sandy Ryder**, **Tiffany Jones**, and Guinea-trained Chelsea master drummer **Ryan Edwards**, who also accompanies the show with live drumming and leads a set of lively participatory chants and songs. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. 10:30 a.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris J. Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$9 (children, \$7) in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, or to arrange tours or audio description, call 995-0930.

***"Personal Histories and Disciplinary Practices: Engendering Middle East and North African Studies": U-M Women's Studies.** Talks by U-M faculty, including Afroamerican and African studies professor **Amal Fadlalla**, Near Eastern studies professor **Carol Bardenstein**, American culture professor **Nadine Naber**, and women's studies lecturer **Elif Shafak**. Noon, 2239 Lane Hall. Free. 763-2047.

***Healthy Kids Reading and Activity Hour: U-M MFit.** Parents and preschoolers invited to hear a story on a health topic and do a simple related craft. This month's topic: "Physical Fitness." 1:30-2:30 p.m., East Ann Arbor Health Center, 4260 Plymouth Rd. Free. 647-5645.

***"Pewabic Pottery's First Hundred Years": Friends of the Michigan League.** Talk by Detroit art and architectural historian **Thomas Brunk**, who has been called "the Pewabic Tile historian." 4:30 p.m., Michigan League Michigan Room. Free. 647-7463.

***"Planting Native Trees and Shrubs": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Talk by area forester and wildlife biologist **Andy Hendriksen**. Preceded by a potluck supper (bring a dish). 6:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). Free. 769-1052.

***"Racial Profiling and Law Enforcement": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M Residential College Center for Afroamerican and African Studies program associate **Kenneth Brown**. In conjunction with the 2004 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads program. 7-8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

***"Exploring Biodiversity: Habitat Home": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library.** See 14 Saturday. 7-8 p.m., West Branch, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. Preregistration required. 327-4200.

***Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky. Aaron offers a talk and answers personal and universal questions. Also, socializing. 7:30 p.m., 3455 Charing Cross Rd. (off Packard just west of US-23). Free, but donations are accepted. 971-3455.

***"Using Maps to Do Research": Saline Area Historical Society.** Talk by Clements Library curator **Brian Dunnigan**. All invited. Refreshments. 7:30 p.m., Depot Museum, 402 N. Ann Arbor St., Saline. Free admission, but donations accepted. 994-0442, 769-2219.

***"Birding Australia": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by U-M ecology professor **Doug Futuyma**. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677-3275.

***Poetry Group: Barnes & Noble.** All poets invited to bring samples of their work for the group to critique. Hosted by local poet **Lawrence Thomas**. 7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

***Writing Awards Winners' Reading: Greenhills School.** Student winners of the school's McDowell Writing Awards contest read their poetry, fiction, essays, and plays. 7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 205-4057.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Penn State. 8 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$15 & \$21. 764-0247.

***Paul Toth: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This Flint

fiction



Karel Glastra van Loon *A Father's Affair*

Every other year for the last twenty years or more, there has been a Dutch writer-in-residence in town for a semester. Invited by the U-M English department and supported by the Foundation for the Production and Translation of Dutch Literary Works in Amsterdam, the visiting writer has had to teach only one fairly small writing workshop and give a reading. Although all of the Dutch writers-in-residence have had wonderful skill with English, most of them have not had books available in our language. So, as interesting as they have been, they have passed through Ann Arbor without being noticed by the larger community.

Karel van Loon, this year's Dutch writer-in-residence, is worth noticing, and he does have a book in translation. Van Loon has traveled widely around the world, writing often about Asia and the wars there, in addition to making films,

writing about rock 'n' roll, and finishing best-selling novels. His 1999 novel, recently translated into English as *A Father's Affair*, has sold almost 300,000 copies in the Netherlands (in proportion to the population, that is the equivalent of 10 million copies in the U.S.), has been turned into a film, and has been translated into twenty-nine languages.

The plot is fairly simple, but it is centered on an elemental situation. Armin Minderhout has a thirteen-year-old son by his first wife, who died ten years before the novel begins. After having difficulty conceiving a child with his second wife, he is told that he is sterile and has always been sterile. The boy cannot be his child. Armin sets out to find the father, even though he has few clues and no one to ask. Although a decidedly modern man with the sophisticated urbanity we like to associate with European intellectuals, he is possessed and driven by jealousy. Before he resolves his questions, his jealousy almost destroys the extraordinary relationship he has with his wife and son.

But the plot provides only a small part of the pleasures of *A Father's Affair*. The book has an easy reference to theology, is often wonderfully sexy, and has finely observed descriptions of Dutch landscapes. Late in the book, Armin and the boy who is and is not his son go out to the Dutch islands for a few days of fishing and bird-watching:

... on the islands, nature is still important. Whether the tide is out or in. Whether the wind is pounding the water against the dike, or against the dunes. Whether the moon is bright enough to go looking for owls. Whether the lapwing is brooding. Whether the brent geese have come back, or just left for their nesting grounds in western Siberia.

One of the successes of *A Father's Affair* is that its narrative can have passages like this, yet the pacing never seems to slow or lose its focus on Armin's desperate search.

Karel van Loon reads from his novel at Shaman Drum Bookshop on Tuesday, February 17.

—Keith Taylor

fiction writer reads from his debut novel *Fizz*, a psychological tale about a loser who develops 2 outlandish and incompatible alter-egos, one a rock star and neighborhood gigolo and the other a sensitive, do-right guy. "Paul Toth is a unique, startling new voice in American literature," says *Small Spiral Notebook* editor-in-chief Felicia Sullivan. "Part Bukowski, part Hemingway, part Freud." The book has been adapted as a short film by *The Matrix* special effects wizard John Tisavary. Signing, 8 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

"Weird Wednesday": Dreamland Theater. Monthly open stage for off-the-wall performance artists, screenings of short videos and films, monologues, "self-styled comics, musicians, and other avant bards." Performers can sign up shortly before the show. 8 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 44 E. Cross, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Donation. 485-3454.

"Comedy Jamm Night": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday, 8 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Fog of War" (Errol Morris, 2003). See 13 Friday. Mich., times TBA. U-M Center for South Asian Studies. "The Cup" (Khyentse Norbu, 1999). Two young Tibetan refugees start a campaign to bring a TV into their monastery to watch the World Cup, against the wishes of their stern headmaster. Tibetan, subtitles. FREE. Lorch Hall Auditorium, 611 Tappan. 763-5408. 7 p.m.

19 THURSDAY

★"Performance Practice in the Beethoven Sonatas": Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild.

Talk by local keyboardist Penelope Crawford. 9 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 647-4301.

★"A Turkish Delight": International Neighbors. Members present an introduction to Turkish food and fashion and other aspects of Turkish culture. All area women invited. International Neighbors is a 44-year-old group of local women organized to welcome women from other countries during their stays in Ann Arbor. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. 9:30-11 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church Piper Hall, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 769-4943.

"Economic and Social Reform: What Needs Fixing?": U-M Turner Geriatric Services Learning in Retirement Program. Every Thursday, February 19-March 25, except February 26. A series of 6 weekly lectures by different U-M and guest scholars. Open to anyone age 55 & older. Today: U-M business school accounting professor Eugene Imhoff discusses "Corporate Governance, Challenges and Remedies: Are There More Enrons Out There?" 10-11:30 a.m., Madstone Theater #1, Briarwood. \$30 (LIR members, \$25) for the 6-lecture series. LIR memberships are \$5 a year. 998-9351.

"Drum Me A Story": Wild Swan Theater. See 18 Wednesday. 10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

★"Still Presents Past: Korean Americans Remember the Korean War": Korean Studies Program Colloquium Series. Talk by Boston College psychology professor Ramsay Liem. 4-6 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-1825.

★Sebastian Matthews: U-M English Department. Poetry and nonfiction reading by this Warren Wilson College (North Carolina) English instructor, an editor



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19 THURSDAY EVENTS continued

of the literary journal *Rivendell*. Matthews's newest work is *In My Father's Footsteps*, his memoir about his sometimes rocky relationship with his poet father, William Matthews. 5 p.m., D1270 Davidson Hall, 701 Tappan. Free. 615-3710.

★"Dead and Deader": Chelsea Area Players. February 19-21. Dinner theater production of Eileen Moushey's interactive murder mystery concerning a filmmaker making a horror film. Audience members are cast as actors in the film, and when the leading man kicks off, a mysterious diary provides some clues to his death. There's a "special detective prize" for each evening's best sleuth. 6:30 p.m., Chelsea Hospital Dining Room, 775 S. Main St., Chelsea. Tickets \$25 in advance only. 475-8713.

★3rd Thursday Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to join this informal club to discuss *Big Fish*, Daniel Wallace's novel about a son and his dying father. 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662-4110.

★"Vegetable Soups": Whole Foods Market. Local chef Brian Steinberg fixes a variety of hearty soups, including squash, lentil, and mushroom barley, all "rich and warming in the depths of a Michigan winter." 7-9 p.m., Whole Foods, 3135 Washtenaw Ave. \$10. Preregistration requested. 975-4500.

★Bilingual Japanese Storytime: Ann Arbor District Library. A program of stories and songs in Japanese and English for kids age 3 & up. 7-7:30 p.m., AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

★"Belated Valentine Cello Concert": Ann Arbor District Library Downtown Sounds. Local cellists Stefan Koch, a member of the Greater Lansing Symphony Orchestra, and Alicia Rowe, a member of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, perform works by Bach, Offenbach, and Mario Escudero. 7-8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

Spontaneous Combustion: The Neutral Zone. This variety show features nationally known rapper (and former Ann Arborite) Andrew W.K. Also, performances by several local bands, including the hip-hop ensemble Athletic Mic League, the rock band The Plot Thickens, ska band The Ninjas, and folk singer-songwriter Emily Powers, along with poets, monologists, and comedians TBA. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$15 (students, \$12) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; \$20 (students \$15) at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★Concert: U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies. Noted local musicians perform songs representing a variety of African American music genres. 7 p.m., U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763-UMMA.

Children of Uganda: University Musical Society. February 19 & 21. Joyous, vibrant traditional Ugandan song and dance performed by this renowned troupe of 20 AIDS orphans, who range in age from one peppy 5-year-old to 17-year-olds. Directed by Ugandan choreographer Frank Katoola, they perform a dozen Ugandan historical, festival, and social dances dressed in vividly colored traditional clothing. Other troupe members accompany them by singing in several of Uganda's 52 languages (including English) and playing an array of percussion instruments and drums. *New York Times* dance critic Jennifer Dunning called the troupe "first-rate as well as inspiring." Proceeds support the Daughters of Charity orphanage in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, where most of the dancers live with some 500 other orphans. 7 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$18-\$40 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

★"Is Socialism Rampant in Ann Arbor?": Libertarian Party of Washtenaw County. All invited to join local Libertarians for a discussion. 7:30 p.m., CUBS' AC, 1950 South Industrial. Free. 668-2607 (days).

★"Eleanor Roosevelt: Vignettes of Her Life and Work": American Association of University Women. Talk by local attorney Sharbyn Pleban. All invited. 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 973-6287.

★"Elevating the American Political Conversation": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon 2004. Talks by Ann Arbor Area Committee for Peace coordinator Phillis Engelbert, U-M-Flint philosophy professor Richard Gull, and Friends Committee on National Legislation Policy chair Thomas Taylor. 7:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★"Orchestra Night": Ann Arbor Public Schools. This blowout gala concert features over 500 student performers in orchestras from all five Ann Arbor middle schools plus the Huron and Pioneer symphony orchestras.

The Pioneer Symphony performs the overture to Strauss's operetta *Die Fledermaus* and the finale of Kalinnikov's Symphony no. 1. The Huron Symphony performs 2 movements from Musorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. 7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 994-2314.

★Festival Wind Orchestra: EMU Music Department. This ensemble of EMU faculty, students, and alumni perform an all-Stravinsky program that includes the Concerto for Piano and Winds, *Symphonies of Wind Instruments*, and *Ragtime*. A benefit for endowed music scholarships. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free, but scholarship pledges solicited. 487-2255.

Dave Rempis Tim Daisy Duo: Canterbury House. The Chicago-based duo of former Vandermark 5 members, saxophonist Dave Rempis and drummer Tim Daisy, is a mainstay on the Chicago improv scene. Opening act is Luminaria Quintet, a local jazz ensemble that includes percussionist Nicole Turney, bassist Jamie Register, trumpeter Ingrid Racine, and reedmen Dan Bannett and Michael Herbst. 8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. \$5-\$10 donation. 764-3162.

April Verch: The Ark. Young Canadian fiddle prodigy whose music blends the Anglo, French, and Celtic fiddling and step-dancing traditions of her native northeastern Ontario with everything from Appalachian music and western swing to Hot Club-style jazz, funk, and samba. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$12.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★"The Lonesome West": U-M Basement Arts Theater. February 19-21. U-M student Grant Bates directs Martin McDonagh's dark tale about the stormy relationship of two 30-something bachelor brothers. Evening time TBA, Arena Stage (Frieze basement), 105 S. State. Free. 764-6800.

★"The Lady's Not for Burning": Concordia University Theater. February 19-22. Laura Bird directs Concordia students in Christopher Fry's witty poetic drama, set in the 15th century, about a disillusioned, world-weary soldier who wishes to die. He tells townspeople he's committed murder and must be hanged, but the townspeople brush him off in their excited pursuit of a rich young woman accused of witchcraft. In time, the soldier's embitterment gives way to a fragile hope for romance and a future. 8 p.m., Concordia Kreft Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes Rd. at Earhart. Tickets \$10 in advance and at the door (tickets 2 for 1 Feb. 19). 995-4612.

★"Proof": Phoenix Theater Project. February 19-22 & 26-29. Rebecca Staffend directs David Auburn's knowing, compassionate drama about a young woman whose life is brought to a crisis by the death of her father, a brilliant mathematician who had crossed the thin line from genius to insanity several years earlier. His daughter must come to grips with her fear that his mathematical genius, which she has inherited, comes with a dreadful price. Cast: Erin Wetzel, Tom Foley, Patricia Ortiz-Tello, and Evan Kaufman. 8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$14 (students & seniors, \$12) in advance and at the door. 480-9577.

★"Brighton Beach Memoirs": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 8 p.m.

★"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

★"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Allyn Ball: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. February 19-21. Ann Arbor debut of this veteran comic with an unreconstructed punk attitude and an intelligently fresh and funny point of view. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$5 (Thurs.) & \$8 (Fri.-Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$7 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

FILMS

Ann Arbor District Library. "Kuch Kuch Hota Hai" (Karan Johar, 1998). Bombay musical about 2 former college classmates who fall in love several years after the death of the man's first wife in childbirth. Hindi, subtitles. Popcorn provided. FREE. 327-8301. AADL multipurpose room (343 S. Fifth Ave. at William), 7 p.m. MTF. "Fog of War" (Errol Morris, 2003). See 13 Friday. Mich., times TBA. Projectorhead. "Punch-Drunk Love" (Paul Thomas Anderson, 2002). Adam Sandler turns in a rich, emotionally satisfying performance in this charming romantic comedy about a novelty business owner who's trying to find love, dodge shady con artists, and fend off dysfunctional family members. The *New York Times* called it a film "as wonderful as it is strange that expands the genre to its absurdist

galleries

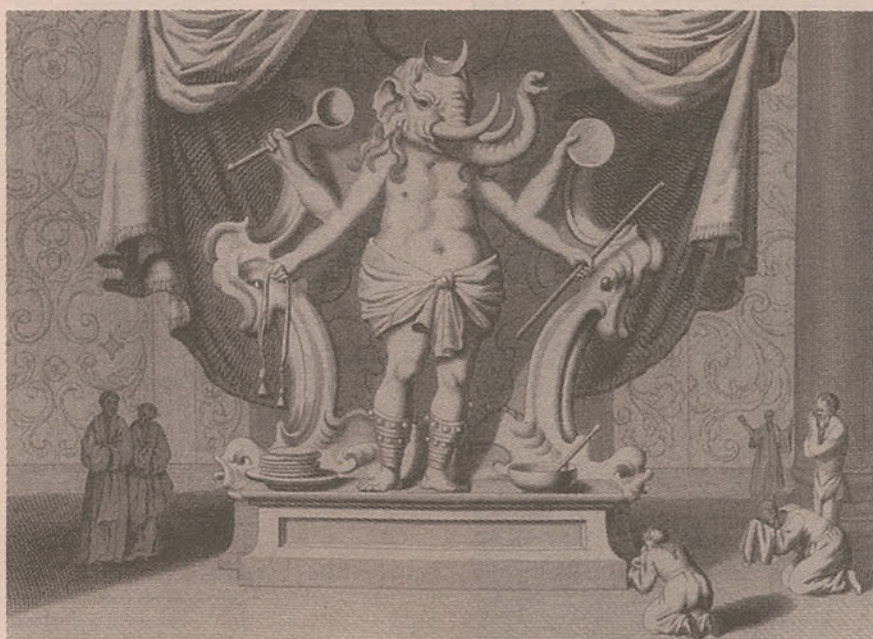
Bernard Picart's prints Lost in translation

In the film *Lost in Translation*, Bill Murray plays a washed-up actor hawking whiskey for Tokyo TV. Hoping to jazz up a photo shoot, the photographer asks, "You know the Rat Pack?" Murray hilariously channels those performers with an irony that dryly skewers the photographer's notion that the Rat Pack represents American cool. Murray and his almost-sweetheart are also culturally challenged, drifting through Tokyo without understanding the city, but in the process creating a haunting, beautiful tale.

Squirreled in the U-M Museum of Art basement is another example of beauty created from missed connections. A series of around thirty exquisitely rendered early-eighteenth-century engravings by French artist Bernard Picart reveals a fantastical vision of India.

Picart took it on himself to illustrate a giant nine-volume 1723 encyclopedia of world religions—a hit in its day and still in print—and the UMMA exhibit shows what he made of Hinduism. Picart never traveled to India, but he pored over what few travel books were available and examined a few Indian miniature paintings he dug up. The resulting illustrations depict a vivid, screwy view of Hinduism as seen from afar in the relatively vaster, more mysterious world of the eighteenth century. The artworks reveal a surreal visual anthropology, with the evidently spotty travelogue information lavishly filled in by Picart's imagination.

One scene of a languid version of the Hindu god Ganesh (above) shows the god's four arms fused at the elbow instead of properly attached at the shoulder. Prob-



bly because of a blip in Picart's written sources, bizarre-looking multiple forearms appear in other works too, weird arm-flowers resembling a cross between windmills and a juggling manual.

A raunchier picture of Ganesh shows him with incongruous woolly satyr's goat legs, holding out his arms in a cocky "check me out" attitude. Picart's wide if misleading influence may be seen in one of the exhibit's several copies of his work by other artists; in this case, an English engraver woodenly imitated Picart's vibrant Ganesh scene but puritanically erased the naughty bits.

The same censorious primness is seen in another English copy—minus several

juicy details—of my favorite Picart work, which depicts a dreamlike forest full of mystical wild men practicing odd rites. The work seems to be the product of an attentive, engaged anthropologist, whose attitude absorbs the viewer as well. In the fakirs' midst, tucked in a small temple under an ancient tree, a massive, serene god's face gazes dreamily into the infinite.

India Viewed from Afar: The Fantastical Engravings of Bernard Picart is on display through March 14. After examining the works, a museum visitor may compare Picart's beautiful monsters concocted from garbled sources with the real thing, in the second-floor show of Indian art on display through February 22. —Laura Bien

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center. *The Digital Canvas* (February 20–March 17). Reception 20 Friday, 6:30–9 p.m. 994-8004.

Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Microbes: Invisible Invaders . . . Amazing Allies* (February 7–April 30). 995-5439.

Ave Maria Gallery. *Metalworks by Melinda Hodge* (through February 16). 930-7514.

Dave's Photo Emporium. *From Darkroom to Digital* (February 2–28). Reception 7 Saturday, 5–7 p.m. 827-0080.

Dreamland Theater. *Photographs by Adam Winnie and Screen Prints by Christopher Pierce* (February 1–18). 485-3454.

EMU Ford Gallery. *Great Lakes Drawing Biennial* (February 2–27). Reception 2 Monday, 4–6 p.m. 487-1268.

First Unitarian Church. *Photographs and Paintings by Donald and Marcia Macmull-*

lan (through February 29). 665-6158.

Gifts of Art (U-M Hospitals). *Audubon Watercolors; Sculptural Clothing; Mixed-Media Group Show; Floral Landscapes; Contemporary Lampwork Beads and Jewelry; Textile Wall Hangings; Handwoven Art Clothing; Oil Paintings* (February 16–April 14). 936-ARTS.

Kerrytown Concert House. *Howard Bond* (through February 29). 769-2999.

Michigan Guild. *Works in Various Media by U-M Students* (February 1–29). Note: This is the Guild's last show. 662-3382.

Michigan League. *Thailand Through Stamps* (February 7–March 5). 763-4652.

Museum on Main Street. *Jefferson's America: Lewis and Clark and Western Exploration* (February 11–April 30). 662-9092.

Riverside Art Center. *New Spaces Art Exhibit: Works by EMU Students, Faculty, and Alumni* (February 4–29). 434-6467.

U-M Museum of Art. *India Viewed from Afar* (through February 22). See review, above. 763-UMMA.

U-M Pierpont Commons. *Space* (February 2–29). 647-6838.

U-M Slusser Gallery (U-M School of Art). *Perception of the Extreme Unseen: The Visual Representation of Subatomic Particle Energy and Matter* (February 12–March 13). Reception 13 Friday, 6–9 p.m. 763-4417.

U-M Special Collections Library. *Spotlight on New Arrivals* (February 9–May 29). 764-9377.

Washington Street Gallery. *3 Photographers: Howard Bond, Bill Pelletier, Robin Vincent* (February 3–29). Reception 13 Friday, 7–9 p.m. 761-2287.

Work. *Fusion* (February 13–March 7). Reception 13 Friday, 6–9 p.m. 998-6178.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the 2003–2004 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or www.arborweb.com.

outer limits." FREE. 615-0445. Modern Languages II (812 E. Washington). 7 p.m. U-M Center for Middle Eastern & North African Studies. "Documentary Film Collage Night" (various directors). An evening of short documentaries about the Middle East, made by various Middle Eastern directors. FREE. 764-0350. Rackham Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

20 FRIDAY

***6th Annual Sphinx Honors Concert.** Performances by Junior Division finalists in this competition for young African American and Latino classical musicians. They are accompanied by the Sphinx Symphony, an orchestra, conducted by Kay Roberts, of African American and Latino musicians from symphony orchestras around the country. Noon, Rackham Auditorium. Free. (313) 336-9809.

"Dead and Deader": Chelsea Area Players. See 19 Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Bowling Green. February 20

& 21. 7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. \$12–\$17. 764-0247.

"Homegrown: Poems from the Ann Arbor Underground": Ann Arbor Wordworks. A lively evening of readings by local youth poets, plus readings by 2-time Ann Arbor Poetry slam champ Molly Raynor, 2003 Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam champ Adam Hanlon, and 2-time Ann Arbor Grand Slam champion Jeff Kass. 7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Tickets \$8 (students, \$4) in advance and \$10 (students \$5) at the door. 223-7443.

Mardi Gras: WEMU-FM. Dancing to C. J. Chenier and the Red Hot Zydeco Band, a back-country zydeco band with a sweet, sassy, big-bottomed New Orleans R&B flavor led by accordionist-vocalist Chenier, a perennial local favorite, is the son of the legendary "King of Zydeco," Clifton Chenier. Opening act is Orquesta Saoco (7:30–9 p.m.), a horn-fired Detroit-area sextet that plays various styles of Brazilian dance music. Beads, masks, and other favors for sale from Fantasy Attic Costumes.

Louisiana-style buffet (7:30–10 p.m.) provided by Smoke House Blues. Cash bar. No smoking. Ages 21 & over admitted. Proceeds to benefit WEMU (89.1 FM), EMU's jazz-oriented public radio station. 7:30 p.m.–midnight, EMU Convocation Center, 799 Hewitt Rd. (just south of Rynearson Stadium), Ypsilanti. Tickets \$45 (includes dinner) in advance at the Convocation Center & at wemu.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 487-2282.

***"Never Again!": Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers.** Short slide-illustrated talks by audience members about unusual rail images they have photographed. All invited to bring a few slides; projector provided. 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church social hall, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 996-8345.

***"Altitude: The Story of the First Cancer Survivor to Climb Mount Everest":** Of Global Interest. Local adventure tour guide Heather O'Neal screens her inspirational documentary of intrepid

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IHA FAMILY PRACTICE

IHA Family Practice welcomes Cynthia Baetz, MD to their health care team.



We are pleased to announce that, on February 2, 2004, Cynthia Baetz will be joining Drs. Robert Breakey, Roger Chen and Melissa Sokol-Keith as part of our Family Practice care team. Dr. Baetz graduated from Wayne State University School of Medicine and served her residency at Oakwood Hospital and Medicine Center in Dearborn, Michigan.

For the past year and a half, she has been on staff at the Huron Valley Family Practice Center associated with St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Prior to that, she served the Chelsea, Michigan community as a family physician for 2½ years. She is a well respected physician with a particular interest in general, individual and family medicine.

Dr. Baetz is looking forward to serving patients in her new office. To schedule an appointment please call (734) 971-1188



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20 FRIDAY EVENTS continued

Colorado climber Sean Swarner. 8 p.m., 120 Eighth St. Free. 369-3107.

Larry Fuller Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. An evening of swinging mainstream jazz by a trio of popular local veteran musicians. A former Ron Brooks Trio pianist known for his elegant, refined style, Fuller is joined by bassist Paul Keller and drummer Pete Siers. A *Seattle Times* critic called Fuller's sound "muscular, tinkling, harmonically advanced." 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10, \$15, & \$25. Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Mustard's Retreat: The Ark. Longtime local favorites Michael Hough and David Tamulevich perform a wide variety of original and traditional songs and ballads about everyday life. According to songwriter Garnet Rogers, Mustard's Retreat "represents everything that is best about folk music. Their songs have entered the lexicon of anonymous folk songs." Both Hough and Tamulevich are accomplished guitarists, and they also play banjo, mandolin, flute, Autoharp, harmonica, and tin whistle. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

The Juggernaut Jug Band: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Traditional jug band music by this acclaimed quartet from Louisville, Kentucky, the birthplace of jug bands. A mixture of classic jazz and blues, jug band music is a swaggering party music, full of high spirits and sexual humor, performed by a modified string band that includes kazoos and other wind instruments, washboard, and, of course, a stoneware jug, an instrument from which a good musician can coax a surprisingly lyrical, hauntingly reverberant sound that's been compared to a bow drawn across the strings of an upright bass. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

Cecilia Bartoli: University Musical Society. The critically acclaimed, Grammy-winning Italian mezzo-soprano is joined by the **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment**, a polished period-instrument ensemble from the UK, for a program of works by Vivaldi, Gluck, and Salieri. Known for a razzle-dazzle "Roman candle" stage presence that led one critic to call her "the Ethel Merman of bel canto," Bartoli sings in a pearly coloratura mezzo voice that's darker than a soprano but retains a soprano ease with trills and ornamentation. At recent concerts, critics have noted scattered rough spots in Bartoli's lower register and a slightly strained quality in her upper notes. She's also toned down her vocal and gestural flamboyance somewhat since her 1993 local debut, but she remains a dazzling performer. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$85 in advance at the Michigan League and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

★**"The Lonesome West": U-M Basement Arts Theater.** See 19 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

★**"The Lady's Not for Burning": Concordia University Theater.** See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Brighton Beach Memoirs": EMU Theater Department.** See 13 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Proof": Phoenix Theater Project.** See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Side Man": Blackbird Theater.** See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company.** See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

★**"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season.** See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Allyn Ball: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Election Night Dance: Parents Without Partners. All adults invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s-90s music played by a DJ from Imperial Sound. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. \$7 (PWP members, \$5). 973-1933.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "The Dreamers" (Bernardo Bertolucci, 2003). February 20-26. Stylish, sensual portrait of three film students in 1968 Paris. \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

21 SATURDAY

★**"Sauces Make It Snappy": Whole Foods Market.** Local *Real Food Real Fast* cookbook author Judy Stone whips up some dressings and sauces to use for salads, marinades, and more. 10 a.m., Whole Foods, 3135 Washtenaw Ave. \$5. Preregistration requested. 975-4500.

★**Essay Contest Winners: Daughters of the American Revolution.** Local high school winners of the statewide "Good Citizen's Award" essay contest read their winning entries that will compete in the state finals. 10 a.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975-1976.

★**Canine Social Club.** Talks by canine behavior experts TBA on dog behavior, training, and care. The CSC is a 150-member group working to bring off-leash dog parks to Washtenaw County. 10:30 a.m., Slauson Middle School, 1019 W. Washington. Free. 761-8500.

★**"Interfaith Forum for Peace": Ann Arbor Chapter of Pilgrims of Ibbilin.** Panel discussion by local residents Irene Butter, Betsy Barlow, Wadad Abed, Maha Hussain, Nazih Hassan, Imam Qazwini, and Rodney Bentz. Middle Eastern luncheon served. 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., First Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 1432 Washtenaw. \$10 includes lunch. Preregistration requested. 665-2820.

★**"Build a Bluebird Box": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs.** All invited to help build bluebird boxes for the park from kits donated by Wild Birds Unlimited. Also, at 1 p.m. a meeting for anyone interested in volunteering to monitor the park's bluebird boxes this summer. 11 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. Free. (Park entry fee: \$4 per vehicle.) Preregistration required. 426-8211.

★**"Balancing Professional and Personal Lives": National Association of Career Women.** Talk by Market Consulting representative Geraldine Markel. Includes lunch. 11:45-1:15 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$20 (members, \$16). 769-2500.

★**"Hiking with Disabilities": Ann Arbor District Library.** Software engineer Kenneth Knight, who is legally blind, discusses his experiences backpacking hundreds of miles of trails throughout the U.S. and abroad and offers tips for hikers with and without disabilities. 1-2:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

★**"2004 International Celebration": Washtenaw Community College.** Student exhibits showcasing the foods, fashions, and music from cultures from around the world. 1:30-8 p.m., WCC Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$5. 677-5128.

★**"The Marsh in February": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a "somewhat strenuous" hike over uneven ground. Wear waterproof boots. 2 p.m., Independence Lake County Park Gamble Group Center, 3200 Jennings, Dexter. (Exit US-23 at Six Mile Rd. and follow the signs.) Free. \$4 per vehicle entry fee. 971-6337.

★**"Romance of the West": Waterloo Natural History Association.** Nationally known cinematographer and lecturer Allen King narrates his film retracing the 4,000-mile journey of Lewis and Clark. 2-3:30 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) \$2 (family, \$5; WNHA members, free). Preregistration required. \$6 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit (\$24 per year). 475-3170.

★**Magic Tree House Discussion Group: Arborland Borders.** Kids invited to discuss *Knight at Dawn*, one of Mary Pope Osborne's Magic Tree House novels about a young brother and sister's magical adventures, and draw dinos with glitter glue. Snack. 2 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★**"Get Spirited Away with Anime: Overview (for Teens) of Japanese Anime Filmmaker Hayao Miyazaki": Ann Arbor District Library.** Comic book artist Sean Bieri discusses Miyazaki's work and shows clips from some of his films, including *Princess Mononoke*, the Oscar-winning *Spirited Away*, and others. For middle and high school students. 2-3 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327-4200.

★**Matinee Dance: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** All seniors age 55 & older invited to dance to recorded music from the 30s, 40s, & 50s. Refreshments. 2-4 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center. Free. 769-5911.

★**"All-You-Can-Eat Ham Dinner": Dixboro United Methodist Church.** All invited to pull up a chair to a family-style ham dinner with all the trimmings. Proceeds benefit the church. 5-7 p.m., DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). Cost TBA. Reservations requested. 665-5632.

★**4th Annual U-M Ballroom Dance Competition: U-M Ballroom Dance Club.** The U-M Ballroom Dance team competes against about 10 other collegiate teams in various American and international ballroom dance styles. Also, spectators are invited to participate in some dance events. 6-9 p.m., IM Sports

Bldg., 606 E. Hoover. \$10 (students, \$5; kids under 10, free). 646-3813.

***Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers.** February 21 & 28. A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments at the Peach Mountain Observatory. The observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope is operational, but participants are nevertheless encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. 6:15 p.m.-12:30 a.m. (as long as the sky remains clear). Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1 1/4 miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332-9132.

Mardi Gras: St. Joseph Catholic Church. All invited to don colorful Mardi Gras finery (the holiday's official colors are green, purple, and gold) for an informal dinner and dancing to a variety of recorded music. Prizes for good costumes. 6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Church parish hall, 3450 Dover, Dexter. Donation. 426-8483.

"Dead and Deader": Chelsea Area Players. See 19 Thursday. 6:30 p.m.

***Kids Movie: Arborland Borders.** All kids 3-7 (accompanied by a parent) invited to come in PJs, bring their teddy bear, munch on popcorn, and watch *Little Bear Tales: Snacktime*. 7-8 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

"Let Them Praise His Name with the Dance": Christian Dance Network Winter Dance Concert. A family-oriented evening of worship dances in various styles by several area liturgical dance organizations. Followed by a potluck dessert and socializing. 7-10 p.m., Knox Presbyterian Church, 2065 S. Wagner at Scio Church Rd. \$10 (students & seniors, \$8; kids under 12, \$4; families, \$30) in advance at Dancer's Boutique, Crossroads Christian Bookstore, christiandancenetwork.org, & crossroadsbooks.com; and at the door. 662-9890.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm Dancers. Contra dancing with callers and live bands TBA. All dances taught; first-timers welcome. No partner needed. Wear cool, casual clothes and bring flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$8. 665-8863 (dance), 769-4220 (jam).

Jo Serrapere and the Willie Dunns: The Ark. Local blues-flavored folk-rock band fronted by Serrapere, a highly regarded local singer-songwriter whose songs draw on various idioms, from old-time country music to swing, jazz, and rock. She is known for her spare, haunting ballads and racy blues and for her sinewy, commanding vocals. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Best of Broadway": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a program of Broadway songs that includes "Find Me a Primitive Man," "Fascinating Rhythm," "I'll Build a Stairway to Paradise," "Love Is Here to Stay," a medley from *Ain't Misbehavin'*, and more. Tonight's program includes solo and ensemble performances by area performers, Judy Dow Rumelhart, Doug LaBrecque, Larry Henkel, Melody Racine, Deanna Relyea, the SATB Quartet, and U-M musical theater students. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$18, \$27, & \$33 (seniors, \$16-\$31; college students, \$14-\$29; children 12 & under, \$10-\$25) in advance at the AASO office, 527 E. Liberty, Suite 208. Half-price rush tickets for students with ID at the door only. 994-4801.

***"The Lonesome West": U-M Basement Arts Theater.** See 19 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

"The Lady's Not for Burning": Concordia University Theater. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Brighton Beach Memoirs": EMU Theater Department. See 13 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Proof": Phoenix Theater Project. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Children of Uganda: University Musical Society. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Allyn Ball: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 19 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Ann Arbor Ballroom Dance Club. All invited to join club members for ballroom dancing to recorded music. Note new location. 9-11 p.m., Michigan Ballroom, Country Creek Plaza, 7025 E. Michigan Ave. \$10. 662-5058, 665-3565.

FILMS

MTF. "The Dreamers" (Bernardo Bertolucci,



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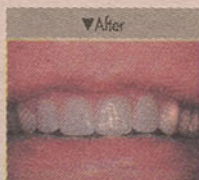
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21 SATURDAY EVENTS continued

2003). See 20 Friday, Mich., times TBA. **Neutral Zone.** "Trilogy Movie Nights." See 14 Saturday. Tonight: "The Empire Strikes Back" (George Lucas, 1980). Amid a blossoming romance between Princess Leia and Han Solo, Luke meets Yoda and Darth Vader reveals his identity. Also, "Evil Dead 2" (Sam Raimi, 1981). Silly, slapsticky gorefest about kids who visit a haunted cabin. Cost TBA. 214-9995. **Neutral Zone.** 637 S. Main. Time TBA. **U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** "City of Sadness" (Hou Hsiao-hsien, 1989). Story of the 1947 massacre of tens of thousands of Taiwanese by invading Nationalist Chinese, told from the perspective of the day-to-day life of a single Taiwanese family. Mandarin, Taiwanese, & Japanese; subtitles. No children under 12 admitted. FREE. 764-6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 8 p.m.

22 SUNDAY

★"Winning with Wisdom": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Talk by Extech management consulting firm president Raj Raja. 10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971-8638.

Wild Game Dinner: Washtenaw Farm Council. Buffet dinner of wild game that usually includes raccoon, rabbit, buffalo, venison, and turkey. Proceeds to fund improvements to the Farm Council Grounds. Noon-2 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Saline. Cost TBA. Reservations suggested. 429-3145.

★"Searching for Archival Material on the Web": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Talk by U-M information studies professor Elizabeth Yakel. Followed by a panel discussion by club members on "Researching Your Ohio Ancestors." 1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Health System Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483-2799.

Gender-Free Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Rainbow Contra Dancers/Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Traditional American folk dancing for people of all orientations. There are 2 distinct roles in contra dancing, one traditionally male and one female. In gender-free contra dancing, dancers take whichever position they like and with any partner they like. Carol Jacobs calls to music by Nutshell. No partner necessary. All dances taught; beginners welcome. Followed by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). 1:45 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$7 (AACT-MAD members & students, \$5). 975-0673.

★**Sunday Tour:** U-M Museum of Art. February 22 & 29. Docent-guided tours. Today: *Divine Encounters, Earthly Pleasures: Twenty Centuries of Indian Art*. Also this month: *Surrealism from the Collections* (February 29). 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 763-UMMA.

★"First in the Series": Barnes & Noble. All young readers age 6-9 invited to join a discussion of *The Adventures of Captain Underpants*, the first of Dav Pilkey's series of books about the spoof superhero. 2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2-4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 971-5763.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Proof": Phoenix Theater Project. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Wisconsin. 2 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$15 & \$21. 764-0247.

"The Lady's Not for Burning": Concordia University Theater. See 19 Thursday. 2:30 p.m.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. February 22 & 27-29. This Ann Arbor-based program features 46 of the best 16- and 17-year-old American ice hockey players under the guidance of U.S. National coach Moe Mantha. The program fields 2 teams—the Under-17 Team and the Under-18 Team—that play full schedules, September-March, against teams from the top American junior leagues (players ages 18-21), American college teams, and comparable European national teams. Today: **Team USA Under-18 vs. Soo** (Sault Ste. Marie) of the North American Hockey League. 3 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. \$6 (students & children, \$4). 327-9251.

★**Annual Meeting: Southern Michigan Orienteering Club.** A chance to chat with members of this club that organizes orienteering meets, or timed out-

door hunts using maps and compasses. Last year's highlight was a *Lord of the Rings*-themed meet on Peach Mountain complete with costumed participants, individually issued Rings, and the Cracks of Doom. Potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass). 3 p.m., 2577 Newport Rd. (take M-14 to Maple; go north 0.6 mi. to Newport and turn right). Free. 761-6980.

★"Exploring Biodiversity: Habitat Home": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library. See 14 Saturday. 3:30-4:30 p.m., Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes Ave. Free. Preregistration required. 764-0478.

"Bread Making": Zingerman's Bakehouse. Zingerman's Bakehouse owner Frank Carollo talks about bread making and the different varieties Zingerman's makes (with taste samples). Also, participants knead, shape, bake, and take home a loaf of Zingerman's rustic Italian bread. Proceeds donated to Food Gatherers, a local organization that collects excess fresh food from restaurants and markets to distribute to local shelters and other organizations with food programs. 4-6 p.m., Zingerman's Bakehouse, 3711 Plaza Dr. \$15. Space limited; reservations required. 761-2095.

Gemini: Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. The popular local acoustic folk duo of twin brothers San and Laz Slomovits joins the symphony for a family concert of folk tales, music from around the world, and rousing sing-alongs, culminating in a big-finish number that features a giant massed choir with kids from the Ann Arbor Youth Chorale, the Angels Children Praise Choir, Korean United Methodist Church, Ann Arbor Hope Church, Korean Bible Church, Lighthouse Community CRC, and the Children's Choir of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Preceded by an instrument petting zoo (2:30-3:30 p.m., free to ticketholders) offering kids an up-close look at the orchestra's string instruments. 4 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$10 (children 12 & under, \$5) in advance at the AASO office, 527 E. Liberty, and at the door. 994-4801.

★**Society for Women Engineers Book Club: Liberty Borders.** All invited to join a discussion of *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Zora Neale Hurston's novel about the life of an African American woman in a small Florida town. 6-8 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

Chamber Music Ann Arbor. This ensemble of U-M music faculty, other accomplished local musicians, and guests performs University of Wisconsin composition professor (and U-M alum) Charles Young's *Song of the Lark*, a lyrical work inspired by the haunting 1884 Jules Breton painting. Also, Ravel's expressive, lyrical *Piece en Forme de Habanera*, Debussy's hazy, evocative *Syrinx* for solo flute, Bach's Sonata in E-flat Major, and works for harp by Marcel Tournier. Featured performers include flutist Amy Porter and harpist Lynne Aspnes. Proceeds benefit CMAA's Springfest concerts. 6 p.m., location TBA. \$40. Reservations requested. 930-1960.

David Wilcox: The Ark. Acclaimed singer-songwriter from Asheville, North Carolina, a Cleveland native with a laid-back singing style whose songs, alternately yearning and plaintive, are known for their emotional force and intimacy and for their canny blend of pop and folk aesthetics. He's also a dynamic guitarist who favors offbeat tunings. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Dead Cat Bounce: Kerrytown Concert House. This up-and-coming Boston-based jazz sextet led by Matt Steckler has taken Boston by storm, sweeping up numerous local "best jazz band" awards and tossing off a debut CD, *Lucky by Association*, whose self-assurance and inventiveness wowed critics. Tonight's concert features works from the band's 2nd CD, *Speaks to the Wandering*. The group combines a 4-sax front line with upright bass and drums to make quirky, swaggering, strongly rhythmic music that's both gritty and joyous. A Boston Phoenix reviewer praises the group for its "tightly arranged, swirling contrapuntal reeds and multipart, blues- and roots-infused tricky compositions." 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10, \$15, & \$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

FILMS

Dixboro United Methodist Church 5th Annual Film Festival. "The Shawshank Redemption" (Frank Darabont, 1994). Grim, ultimately uplifting parable, set in a Maine prison, about the struggle to retain human dignity despite almost intolerable hardship. Based on a short story by Stephen King. No children allowed; mature teens and adults only. Tim Robbins, Morgan Freeman, Bob Gunton. Followed by a discussion led by Dixboro UMC minister John Ferris. Pop and popcorn available. FREE. 665-5632. DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). 6:30 p.m. MTF. "The

Dreamers" (Bernardo Bertolucci, 2003). See 20 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

23 MONDAY

★"Animal Adventures": U-M Exhibit Museum. February 23-27. Family-oriented program of hands-on crafts and experiments exploring the natural world, our place in it, and our many different kinds of animal neighbors. 1-4 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum Education Room (3rd floor), 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

"Great Balls of Fire"/"The Solar System: Take a Deep Breath": U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. February 23-27. Special winter break showings of the current planetarium shows (see 1 Sunday listing for details). 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$3.50. 764-0478.

Scandinavian Couple Dancing: Multicultural Folk Arts Center. Bruce Sagan and Suzanne Schluederberg teach traditional turning couple dances, mainly from Sweden and Norway, including hambo, schottis, Boda polska, and Telespringar. Instruction followed at 10:30 p.m. by request dancing, with live music by Rumpetroll, a local band led by fiddler Sagan. No partner necessary. Hard-soled shoes strongly recommended. Snacks. 8-10:30 p.m., Gretchen's House Learning Center gym, 2340 Oak Valley Dr. \$5. (517) 355-8329.

Peter Case: The Ark. Case first emerged in the early 80s as the leader of the Plimsouls, an L.A.-based postpunk folk-rock band, and his acclaimed 1989 LP *The Man with the Postmodern Fragmented Neotraditionalist Guitar* established him as a favorite with alternative music fans. Case's music, performed on guitar and harmonica, is at once sweetly haunting and abrasively nervy, and his lyrics blend brash self-mythologizing, barbed moralizing, and deft storytelling in ways that provoke comparisons to John Prine, John Hiatt, T-Bone Burnett, and even Bob Dylan. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion" (Tom Peosay, 2003). February 23-27 & 29. Moving documentary of Tibet's troubled past and uncertain future. A *New York Times* critic notes, "A more concise and affecting summation of the Tibetan crisis would be hard to imagine." \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA. "The Dreamers" (Bernardo Bertolucci, 2003). See 20 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

24 TUESDAY

★Jeff Wawrzaszek: Ann Arbor District Library. February 24-26 (different branch locations). Magic show by this award-winning magician for kids ages 6 & up. 1-1:45 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch (Plymouth Mall), & 4-4:45 p.m. main library. Free. 327-4200.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. MSU. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$15 & \$21. 764-0247.

★Human Chain of Peace Planning Meeting. All invited to join veteran local activist Alan Haber to discuss strategies for forming a citywide human peace chain in the spring. 7:30 p.m., 310 S. Ashley. Free. 761-7967.

★Doria Roberts and Jez Lowe: The Ark "Take a Chance Tuesdays." Double bill. Roberts is a Philadelphia-bred, Atlanta-based folk-rock singer-songwriter and lesbian activist whose heartfelt, engagingly accessible songs of life and love blend soulfulness, streetwise sass, and a politically charged point of view. Lowe is a veteran English folk-rock singer-songwriter known for his acerbic, wryly humorous point of view and his strikingly melodic, ruggedly wild-hearted compositions based on the traditional music of his native Northumbria. Part of a monthly series of free concerts featuring lesser-known artists on the roster of the prestigious local management agency Fleming & Associates. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. 761-1451.

"Tuesday Tickler": The Heidelberg Club Above. See 3 Tuesday. 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m.

FILMS

MTF. "The Dreamers" (Bernardo Bertolucci, 2003). See 20 Friday. Mich., times TBA. "Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion" (Tom Peosay, 2003). See 23 Monday. Mich., times TBA. *The Underworld*. "Anime Night." See 3 Tuesday. The Underworld, 9-11 p.m.



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25 WEDNESDAY

"The Current State and Future of TV News": Ann Arbor Women's City Club "Lunch and Learn Lecture Series." Talk by EMU telecommunications professor Mary Ann Watson. Lunch included. Preceded by a social period (11:30 a.m.). Noon. Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$15. Preregistration requested. 662-3279.

***Jeff Wawrzaszek:** Ann Arbor District Library. See 24 Tuesday. 1-1:45 p.m., AADL West Branch story room, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 327-4200.

***"Comic Jams: Comic Writing and Drawing":** Ann Arbor District Library. Detroit comic book artist Sean Bieri discusses and demonstrates techniques for creating your own comics. For middle and high school students. 2-3:30 p.m., AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

***"How to E-File Your Tax Return":** Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by H&R Block representative Wanda Sizemore. Q&A. 7-8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4560. Free. 327-4560.

***Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor Area Robotics Club.** All invited to meet robotics hobbyists and check out and informally discuss their current gadgets and toys. Legos Mindstorms robots and radio-controlled cars available for kids entertainment. 7 p.m., Corsa Instruments, 2370 Abbott (off Jackson Ave., behind KFC). Free. 332-1000.

***"Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?" and Other Conversations about Race":** Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to discuss Beverly Daniel Tatum's popular and influential book, a study of the development of racial identity and the persisting racial barriers in American society. The discussion is part of the 2004 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads program. Note: Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads public discussions of Tatum's book, which continue through March, are scheduled this month at Nicola's on February 7, Crazy Wisdom on February 27, and Barnes & Noble on February 28 (see listings). Related programs are offered in the main library on February 4, 10, 17, & 18 (see listings). 7-8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 345 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

***Musical Biography Discussion Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of Billie Holiday's autobiography *Lady Sings the Blues*. 7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

Celtic Fiddle Fest: The Ark. Showcase of various styles of Celtic fiddling with Sligo-style Irish fiddler Kevin Burke of Patrick Street, Breton fiddler Christian LeMaitre of Kornog, and a 3rd fiddler TBA. Three individual sets are followed by a group performance. This show is a tribute to Johnny Cunningham, the great Scottish fiddler, originally scheduled to perform tonight, who died in December. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm Night": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion" (Tom Peosay, 2003). See 23 Monday. Mich., times TBA. "The Dreamers" (Bernardo Bertolucci, 2003). See 20 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

26 THURSDAY

***Jeff Wawrzaszek:** Ann Arbor District Library. See 24 Tuesday. 1-1:45 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Packard & Stone School rds.). Free. 327-4200.

***Arts and Crafts: Arborland Borders.** Kids of all ages invited to create their own art project from a huge assortment of materials from the Scrap Box, including feathers, buttons, decorative paper, gewgaws, baubles, doodads, sparkly and nonsparkly things, and more. One of Borders's most popular events. 4-5 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

***"West Side Renewal":** West Side United Methodist Church. West Side pastor Fred Cooley gives a talk on "The Will of God" to kick off five 6-week-long series (Thursdays, February 26-April 1) of talks for adults, parents, teens, and kids 11 & younger. His talk is followed at 5:45 p.m. by dinner (\$5; family, \$15) The first talk in each series begins at 6:50 p.m. Childcare for kids 4 and younger provided.

ed. 4:30 p.m., West Side United Methodist, 900 S. Seventh. Free. Preregistration requested for dinner and talks. 663-4164.

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Northwestern. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths under 18, \$1; U-M students with ID, free). 764-0247.

***"The Art, History, and Reality of Tattoos":** Ann Arbor District Library. Slide-illustrated talk by award-winning tattoo artist Mark Stopke, owner of the local Lucky Monkey Tattoo Parlor. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

***"Herbs for First Aid":** People's Food Co-op Herbal Wisdom Series. Talk by Ann Arbor Center for Holistic Health and Traditional Wisdom director Linda Feldt. 7:30-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994-4589.

***"The Devil in the City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America":** Shaman Drum Bookshop. Freelance writer Erik Larsen reads from his best-selling book about the 1893 Chicago World's Fair that balances an account of the planning and execution of the fair under architect Daniel Hudson Burnham against the story of serial killer H. H. Holmes, who murdered somewhere between 27 and 200 people, mostly single young women visiting the fair. Signing. 8 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662-7407.

Habib Koite: The Ark. Award-winning guitarist, a superstar in his native Mali, whose music infuses the exuberant "danssa" folk rhythm with flavors of everything from flamenco to blues to Cuban son. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Proof": Phoenix Theater Project. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Andres Fernandez: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. February 26-28. Ann Arbor debut of this very funny young Latino comic from New York City, an engaging storyteller known for his warm, freshly observed ethnic humor, much of it based on his experiences growing up in a large family with a Cuban father and a Greek mother. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$14 (Thurs.) & \$17 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$16 (Thurs.) & \$19 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

FILMS

MTF. "The Dreamers" (Bernardo Bertolucci, 2003). See 20 Friday. Mich., times TBA. "Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion" (Tom Peosay, 2003). See 23 Monday. Mich., times TBA.

27 FRIDAY

***Lenten Recital Series: American Guild of Organists.** Every Friday, February 27-April 2. Noon-time concerts by local organists. Today: students of U-M organ professor James Kibbie. Noon, First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Free. 662-1679.

26th Annual Lenten Fish Fry: Old St. Patrick's Church. Every Friday, February 27-April 2. Fried Alaskan pollack, choice of potato, salad bar, and beverage. Desserts available for a nominal additional charge. Beer & wine available for donation. Be prepared to stand in line, but the food is worth the wait. 4:30-8 p.m., Old St. Pat's Church, 5671 Whitmore Lake Rd. at Northfield Church (3 miles north of Ann Arbor). \$6.50 (seniors, \$6; children 5-11, \$5; children 4 & under, free). 662-8141.

"Parents' Night Out": Ann Arbor YMCA. Kids ages 2-12 invited for pizza, a G-rated movie, games, and sports. Also, swimming for kids 5 & older (bring a suit). 6-10 p.m., Ann Arbor Y, 350 S. Fifth Ave. \$15 per child. Preregistration requested. 663-0536.

***4th Annual Open House and Birthday Party: Women's Center of America.** All invited to chat with staff and learn about the personal, financial, and career counseling the center offers. Also, music by performers TBA. Refreshments. 6-9 p.m., Women's Center, 2425 Stadium. Free. 973-6779.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 22 Sunday. Today: Team USA Under-17 vs. Springfield (Illinois) of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

***Coffee Hour: Druids of Shining Lakes Grove.**

All invited to chat with local neopagans. 7-9 p.m., Arborland Borders. Free. 998-1029.

***Crazy Wisdom Reading Circle: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited to discuss Beverly Daniel Tatum's *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?* (see 25 Wednesday listing). 7-9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

Michigan Chamber Brass. Michael Grant leads this polished 10-member local brass ensemble in a varied program that features a performance by the winner of its first Youth Concerto Contest. Program: Dave Brubeck's *Blue Rondo a la Turk*, J. S. Bach's *Concerto for Brass*, Samuel Scheidt's *Canzon Bergamasque*, and other works. 7:30 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris J. Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$15 (students & seniors, \$12). 485-2902.

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Georgia. 8 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths age 12 & under, \$1; U-M students, free). 763-2159.

"23rd Anniversary Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. February 27-29. A nonstop weekend of folk dancing to live music, with around 400 people expected to dance or just listen to the many fine musicians. Evening program in the gym: Don Theyken calls "Contras" by the Sharon Hollow String Band (8 p.m.), and Ted Hodapp calls "Advanced Contras" to music by Great Northern (10 p.m.-1 a.m.). Evening program in the cafeteria: Beverly Francis calls "English Greetings" to music by A Perfect Match (8-11 p.m.). Wear clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing (no dancing in street shoes allowed). Note: There are no meals available this year. 8 p.m.-1 a.m., Scarlett Middle School gym, 3300 Lorraine (off Platt south of Packard). Tonight's dance: \$15 (weekend, \$55) at the door only. 483-2833.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Proof": Phoenix Theater Project. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Andres Fernandez: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Triplets of Belleville" (Sylvain Chomet, 2002). February 27-29. Weird, creepy, magical animated portrait of a chubby boy who eventually enters the Tour de France. Roger Ebert advises, "Imagine Felix the Cat with firecrackers tied to his tail, in a story involving the French nephew and aunt of the Reservoir Dogs, and a score by Spike Jones. No, the other Spike Jones." \$8 (children, students, & seniors, \$6.25; MTF members, \$5.50). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA. "Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion" (Tom Peosay, 2003). See 23 Monday. Mich., times TBA.

28 SATURDAY

"Maple Sugaring: A Tour to the Sugar Bush": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. February 28 & 29. Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck discusses the history of maple sugaring and leads a short walk to a stand of maple trees to see how they are tapped, followed by a trip to an evaporator to learn how sap is turned into syrup. Also, pancake and sausage breakfast (\$3.50) available, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 10 & 11 a.m. and noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$2. (Park entry fee: \$4 per vehicle.) Preregistration required. 426-8211.

***Washtenaw Camp Fair: Washtenaw Camp Placement Association.** A chance to browse literature and chat with reps from summer resident and day camps in Michigan, the rest of the Midwest, and Canada, for kids ages 5-18. Camps include travel, sports, science, arts, computer, and more. 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., EMU Convocation Center, 799 Hewitt Rd. (just south of Rynearson Stadium), Ypsilanti. Free. 971-4537.

"Explore the World of Knights": Learning Express. All kids ages 5 & up invited to learn about medieval knights and make a shield and crown. Snack. 11 a.m. & 2 p.m., Learning Express, Westgate Shopping Center. \$5 materials fee. Space limited; preregistration required. 997-0707.

***Women's Self-Defense: Keith Hafner's Karate.** A 30-minute session for women and girls ages 7 & up that focuses on assault prevention and self-defense techniques. 11 a.m., Keith Hafner's Karate, 214 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994-0333.

"23rd Anniversary Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. See 27 Friday. Afternoon dances in Scarlett Middle School gym: Glen Morningstar leads "Contras from

the Heartland" to music by Dr. Grangelove (1 p.m.). Beverly Francis leads "Advanced English" dances to music by Great Northern (3-5 p.m.). Afternoon program in the cafeteria: Ted Hodapp leads "Scandi for All" to music by Bruce Sagan and friends (1 p.m.), and Carol Ormand leads "Down Home Contras" to music by Dr. Grangelove (3-5 p.m.). Afternoon program in auditorium: workshops on leading English dancing (1 p.m.) and clogging (3-5 p.m.). Afternoon program in music room: open instrumental jams with a klezmer (1 p.m.) and an international (3-5 p.m.) feel. Bring your instrument. Evening dances in the gym: Carol Ormand calls a "Contra Blowout I" to music by Marty Somberg and friends (8 p.m.), and Ted Hodapp calls a "Contra Blowout II" to music by Great Northern (10:10 p.m.-1 a.m.). Evening dances in the cafeteria: A concert by Great Northern (7:30 p.m.), Beverly's Cavalcade calls "English Treats" to music by Childgrove (8:30 p.m.), and Beverly Francis calls "Nightcaps" to music by Childgrove (10:10-11:30 p.m.). 1 p.m. until the wee hours.

"Bats of the World": Waterloo Natural History Association. Representatives from the Organization for Bat Conservation display and discuss live bats from around the world. 2-3 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take I-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) \$2 (family, \$5; WNHA members, free). Preregistration required. \$6 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit (\$24 per year). 475-3170.

***American Girl Series Discussion Group: Arborland Borders.** All girls invited to delve into the world of these historical dolls. Journaling, snack, and a craft. Today's doll: the plucky Felicity. Bring your doll. 2 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

***"Froggy":** Barnes & Noble. Jonathan London's rambunctious frog hosts this storytelling program for kids ages 2-5. Parents invited to bring their cameras. 2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

***"James and the Giant Peach":** Ann Arbor District Library. Showing of Henry Selick's 1996 adaptation of Roald Dahl's fantasy novel about an orphaned boy left with 2 cruel aunts who, after being rescued by a mysterious fellow, ends up drifting across the Atlantic in a giant peach in the company of a variety of engaging anthropomorphized insects. A superb mix of live action, stop-motion animation, and computer-generated special effects, the film also features a memorable Randy Newman score. 2-3:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4200.

***Ann Arbor Reads: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to discuss Beverly Daniel Tatum's *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?* (see 25 Wednesday listing). 2 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

Louisiana Dance Mardi Gras Party. This evening of Mardi Gras fun kicks off with a Cajun and zydeco jam session. Followed by a potluck (6 p.m.; bring a dish) complete with traditional Mardi Gras King cake. Dance lessons (7:30 p.m.) and dancing (8:30 p.m.) to Cajun and zydeco music by Maison Bleue. Costumes encouraged; the 2 best costumes will be crowned King and Queen of the Mardi Gras. 3-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). \$8 (teens, \$3; kids 12 & under, free). 213-5209.

Annual Fund-Raising Banquet: Washtenaw County Pheasants Forever. A casual buffet dinner with live and silent auctions of wildlife paintings, carvings, hunting trips, guns, and other goods. Also, raffles, door prizes, games, sale of country art and woodwork, and more. Proceeds benefit the group's efforts to establish and preserve a wildlife habitat for the ring-necked pheasant. 5:30-10:30 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$50 (couple \$75) includes WCPF membership fee. Reservations required. Call Steve Schneider at 662-2522.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 22 Sunday. Today: Team USA Under-17 vs. Springfield (Illinois) of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

***Game Night: Washtenaw Rainbow Action Project.** All invited to bring their favorite card or board game to play. 7-9 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 995-9867.

Five Guys Named Moe: Chelsea Musical Celebrations. An eclectic mix of styles and genres by this Ann Arbor acoustic swing ensemble. Members are vocalist and multi-instrumentalist Myron Grant, vocalist and fiddler Mary Seelhorst, guitarist Jake Reichbart, bassist Erin Zurbuchen, and drummer Eric Nyhuis. 7 p.m., First Congregational Church, 121 E. Middle, Chelsea. Tickets \$16 (seniors, \$12; youth, \$10) in advance and at the door. 475-7050.

Robert Randolph & the Family Band: Clear

contests



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Trivia Night at the Arena High profile

I try to keep a low profile when on assignment. It makes things easier and keeps my experience more true to life. However, it's far less feasible, or necessary, for an Observer photographer to be inconspicuous. For starters, Adrian Wylie is six and a half feet tall, and when he's draped in his arsenal of fancy camera equipment, gliding about in search of that perfect shot, he's as unobtrusive as a glowing, dancing giraffe.

By the time I show up at the Arena's Tuesday night Trivia Quiz, Adrian has been doing his thing for a full forty minutes. Everyone knows who we are and why we're here. I decide to make the best of it.

Adrian fills me in on what he's learned. The team of Aimee Bingham and Aaron Branham make up the questions and facilitate the party. Different tables compete for points. There are lots of regulars, one of them being a local radio personality who sometimes acts as mediator for the sports questions. Let me clue you in on a bit of barroom trivia etiquette. You do not shout out the answers when the question is read. Everyone will look at you, annoyed. Instead, write them down and hand them in at the end of the round. Like a good girl.

Aimee starts a new round of questions: What is the murder capital of the United States? In 1968, what baby doctor was in-

dicted for encouraging draft dodgers? What former *ER* actor's father is running for Congress from Kentucky? What year was Diet Coke introduced?

We scribble our answers, and Aimee comes by to collect them. Then she reads the correct answers and announces the winning teams. There are six tables, and they all have bizarre names, some of them graphically sexual. Just as I think we're slipping unnoticed into the background, Aimee realizes we don't have a team name and christens us "The Observer Porno Stars." Great.

Next, the Bingham play portions of songs, mostly by 1980s hair bands, and we have to identify the artists and titles. It looks as if we might actually be winning until it's time for the interactive competitions, and yes, I'm talking about Twister. Several mats are taped together and loaded up with contestants. A girl with a teeny Princess Leia bun on either side of her head stands up and does comic, mock gymnastic warm-ups. She does pretty well in the game too. More trivia follow, and then a good old-fashioned staring contest. One finalist keeps a pretty impressive dead-eye stare on his opponent while maintaining his metered intake of cigarette smoke and beer.

As we pack up to leave, Aimee is still reading off questions, challenging entire tables of students unwilling to give up. I'm not exactly eager to head out into the cold either, but it is getting late, and we aging literary porno stars need our beauty rest.

—Charmie Gholson

Channel Entertainment. Gritty, greasy, sinewy country gospel-based original music, infused with elements of blues, soul, funk, and hard rock, by this highly acclaimed ensemble led by Randolph, a "sacred steel" pedal steel guitar virtuoso who's been compared to Stevie Ray Vaughan, Duane Allman, and Jimi Hendrix. "By updating the sacred-steel tradition [Randolph has] not only emerged with his own sound, but he's brought the music full circle, returning pop-music styles to their gospel roots," says pop critic Marc Greilsamer. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$18 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (234) 645-6666.

Deb Mantel with David Mosher & Friends: The Ark. Mantel, a Christian singer-songwriter with a beautiful voice, is accompanied by an ensemble led by local acoustic guitar virtuoso Mosher. Proceeds benefit the Hope Medical Clinic. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 (students, \$10) in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Proof": Phoenix Theater Project. See 19 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 8 p.m.

Andres Fernandez: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 26 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Triplets of Belleville" (Sylvain Chomet, 2002). See 27 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **Neutral Zone. "Trilogy Movie Nights."** See 14 Saturday. Tonight: "Return of the Jedi" (Richard Marquand, 1983). Exciting adventure about space warrior Luke's battle against the Death Star. Also, "Army of Darkness" (Sam Raimi, 1993). A hardware store employee travels back in time with his 1973 Olds to the court of King Arthur, where he is confronted by an army of skeletons. Cost TBA. 214-9995. Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main. Time TBA.

29 SUNDAY

★Salamander Survey Kickoff: Ann Arbor Parks Department Natural Area Preservation Division. A chance to learn about the city's upcoming 1st annual survey of the salamander population in town. This is also a training session (preregistration required) for volunteers to help with the survey. 10 a.m.-noon, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free; \$10 materials fee for volunteers. 996-3266.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Ohio State. Noon, Crisler Arena. \$15 & \$21. 764-0247.

"23rd Anniversary Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. See 27 Friday. *Afternoon dances in the gym:* Carol Ormand calls "There's No Tomorrow" contras to music by Dr. Grangelove (12:30 p.m.), and Ted Hodapp calls a "Leaping Contra Finale" to music by Great Northern (2:10-4:30 p.m.). *Afternoon dance in the cafeteria:* Beverly Francis calls "Beverly Favorites" to music by Great Northern (12:30 p.m.). 12:30-4:30 p.m.

★Frog and Toad Survey Kickoff: Ann Arbor Parks Department Natural Area Preservation Division. A chance to learn about the city's upcoming annual survey of the various species of amphibians found in city parks. This is also a training session (preregistration required) for volunteers to help with the survey. 1:30-3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 996-3266.

"Mike Mulligan & His Steam Shovel": Michigan Theater Foundation "Not Just for Kids" Series. Family-oriented dramatic adaptation of Virginia Lee Burton's story about a man devoted to his anachronistic steam shovel who promises to dig the basement for Popperville's town hall in a single day. 1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$10 (MTF members, \$8.50) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★"Seusscentennial": Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to celebrate Dr. Seuss's 100th birthday with a movie, craft activity, and birthday cake. 2-3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-8301.

"Side Man": Blackbird Theater. See 5 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Proof": Phoenix Theater Project. See 19 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Leaving Iowa": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

"Spike Heels": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Sunday. 2 p.m.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 22 Sunday. Today: Team USA Under-18 vs. Springfield (Illinois) of the North American Hockey League. 2 p.m.

★"Astrology and Your Money: Perspectives on Merriman's Forecast 2004": Astrology Study Group of Washtenaw County. Talk by Farmington Hills astrological financial analyst Jim Dragun. 3-5 p.m., location TBA. Free. 434-4555.

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Minnesota. 3:30 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths under 18, \$1; U-M students with ID, free). 764-0247.

★"A 'Leap' of Perspective Eye Witness Reports": Jewish Voices for Peace and Justice. All invited to give short talks on personal experiences in Gaza, the West Bank, Jerusalem, and other locations in Israel, and how to create peace. 4-6 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr., off Stone School Rd. south of Packard (Feb. 29). Free. 665-5947.

Sandip Burman: The Ark. A native of Durgapur, India, Burman is a renowned master of the tabla, a north Indian percussion instrument, whose repertoire includes a variety of traditional Indian music. He made his local debut in October 2000 in a duo performance with banjo virtuoso Bela Fleck. Opening act is **Judy Piazza**, a Detroit-area multi-instrumentalist who performs frame drum solos and songs from her new CD, *One Breath*. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 (students, \$10) in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Dada: The Blind Pig. Very popular power-pop trio from L.A. known for its catchy melodies, buoyant 3-part harmonies, and playfully brash lyrics. 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets \$10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, \$15 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666; for information, call 996-8555.

FILMS

MTF. "Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion" (Tom Peosay, 2003). See 23 Monday. Mich., times TBA. **"Triplets of Belleville"** (Sylvain Chomet, 2002). See 27 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

MICHIGAN CHAMBER BRASS

Friday, Feb. 27th 7:30 PM

Washtenaw Community College
Towsley Auditorium
4800 E. Huron River Drive

Performing the music of Ellington, Bach & Scheidt and featuring the winner of our first area Youth Concerto Contest. This concert is sponsored by Pfizer Corporation & The Woodwind & Brasswind.

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gone for good. Which reminds me. Life is kind of like a jelly donut. Sometimes when you take a bite, all the jelly squirts out the other side, gone forever.

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MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

by John Hinchey

These bookings come from information available at press time. Last-minute changes are always possible, so to be certain who's playing, it's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main 761-1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Cover, no dancing. All shows begin at 8 p.m. (Sun., 7:30 p.m.) unless otherwise noted. **Feb. 4: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. The first 12 acts to sign up beginning at 7:30 p.m. get to perform. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. \$3 (members & students, \$2). **Feb. 5: Rachael Davis.** Singer-songwriter. See Events. **Feb. 6: RFD Boys.** Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites. They have appeared in numerous festivals and even made the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have several recordings, including *Live and Unrehearsed*, a 1994 Ark performance. **Feb. 7: Ann Doyle.** Veteran local singer-songwriter. See Events. **Feb. 8: Neil Woodward.** Traditional and original blues-based songs by this Detroit veteran. See Events. **Feb. 9: Seth Bernard.** Local singer-songwriter. See Events. **Feb. 10: Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Festival.** With Dennis Kamakahi, Cyril Pahinui, and Cindy Combs. See Events. **Feb. 11: Kate and Anna McGarrigle.** Renowned Canadian folk duo. See Events. **Feb. 12: Martin Hayes & Dennis Cahill.** Traditional Irish music. See Events. **Feb. 15: Reverend Robert Jones.** Detroit blues singer. See Events. **Feb. 16: Gazza.** Traditional Hungarian folk music by this Transylvanian ensemble. **Feb. 17: Annie Gallup.** Highly regarded Ann Arbor singer-songwriter. See Events. **Feb. 19: April Verch.** This young fiddle virtuoso plays Canadian folk music from various traditions. See Events. **Feb. 20: Mustard's Retreat.** Veteran local folk duo. See Events. **Feb. 21: Jo Serrapere and the Willie Dunns.** Local blues-flavored folk-rock band fronted by singer-songwriter Serrapere. **Feb. 22: David Wilcox.** Singer-songwriter from Asheville, North Carolina. See Events. **Feb. 23: Peter Case.** Rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter. See Events. **Feb. 24: "Take a Chance Tuesday."** With singer-songwriters Doria Roberts and Jez Lowe. See Events. **Feb. 25: Celtic Fiddle Fest.** With Kevin Burke, Christian LeMaitre, & a third fiddler TBA. See Events. **Feb. 26: Habib Koite.** Award-winning guitarist who plays the traditional music of Mali. See Events. **Feb. 28: Deb Mantel with David Mosher & Friends.** Christian singer-songwriter Mantel is accompanied by an ensemble led by guitarist Mosher. See Events. **Feb. 29: Sandip Burman.** Indian tabla virtuoso. See Events.

Bird Of Paradise

312 S. Main 662-8310

Intimate jazz club owned by prominent jazz bassist Ron Brooks. Live music 7 nights a week, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. (Fri.-Sun.) & 8 p.m.-midnight (Mon.-Thurs.). Cover (unless otherwise noted), no dancing. **Every Sun.: Jazz Jam Session.** All jazz musicians invited. Hosted by pianist Jon Nam. **Every Mon. (except Feb. 23): Steve Richco.** Detroit jazz pianist. **Every Tues. & Thurs.: Ron Brooks Trio.** One of the state's finest jazz bassists, club owner Brooks is joined by pianist Tad Weed and drummer Pete Siers. With occasional guest vocalists TBA. **Every Wed.: Jon Nam Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by pianist Nam, a U-M music student. **Feb. 6 & 7: Organized Crime.** Funk-inflected jazz by this Detroit ensemble led by B-3 organist Gerard Gibbs. **Feb. 13 & 14: Sunny Wilkinson.** This well-known straight-ahead jazz vocalist from L.A. performs bebop ballads and jazz standards. Backed by the Ron Brooks Trio. **Feb. 20 & 21: Betty Joplin.** Jazz ensemble fronted by Joplin, a silky-voiced jazz singer from Lansing with a vocal style somewhere between Aretha Franklin and Natalie Cole and a repertoire that blends Sarah Vaughan and Nancy Wilson. She is backed by the Ron Brooks Trio. **Feb. 23: Tad Weed Freedom Ensemble.** Progressive to mainstream jazz by this highly regarded pianist, a Jackson, Michigan, native. **Feb.**

Mike Boyd

Fuzzy focus

Let's just say Mike Boyd's goal is not precision. As a friend commented when Boyd was playing, "He mumbles when he sings, but it suits him." He mumbles with his guitar too, playing muddy tones and wrapping his voice around the notes. Add his fuzzy bearded face and occasional blurry harmonica riffs, and, well, you get the hazy picture.

But it works. The blues and country originals he writes are enhanced by his "I'm just all worn out" performance style. This is especially evident on his 2000 self-produced solo CD *The Mean Old Stoner Blues and Other Tales*. Boyd now performs live with his band, the Genesee Ramblers, adding drums, upright bass, and pedal steel guitar to his sound. But the CD is just Boyd's throaty whisper, soft guitar, and lines like "It always gets worse before it gets ugly" and "If you got faith and a good oven, you can always keep the Lord a-simmerin'."

Boyd's mumbled singing, especially onstage, is a bit of a shame, since his original lyrics are worth hearing. I enjoyed picking up some of the wittier lines, like "We're all asleep at the wheel of fortune." One talky folk song with a fast-strumming guitar ends with "Love, I love you, I need you, but this is the biggest televised game of the year."

The title track on the CD, a backwoods blues original, epitomizes Boyd's style; it sounds smoky, wet, and dark, maybe even a little creepy. Clearly inspired by the most traditional representatives of his chosen genres, his melodies borrow liberally from

blues & country



J. ADRIAN WYLLIE

refrains like the chorus of "Will the Circle Be Unbroken?" or Robert Johnson tunes. When he switches to folk, the influence of the early Bob Dylan is obvious, but Boyd's talent and passion raise him above a mere imitator. His work feels like a successful effort to carry on valuable traditions.

Onstage, with the high energy of fellow musicians and cheering fans, Boyd's compositions take on a totally different life. Blues songs pick up speed, folk songs become more countryfied and danceable, and Boyd's loose, fuzzy structure lets band members improvise as the spirit moves them. John Latini's pedal steel is especially helpful in filling out Boyd's musical vision, and Pat Knight's warm, wide bass

tones are a perfect complement. After a few years of practicing since he made the CD, Boyd's harmonica work is much improved. And with Jim Carey on drums, he also seems comfortable branching out into crowd-pleasing covers—the Rolling Stones' "Have You Seen Your Mother, Baby, Standing in the Shadows?" or Carl Perkins' "Honey, Don't"—that are as hip and happening as anything on the local dance-band scene. A new CD is well overdue, and, happily, it's on the way.

Mike Boyd and the Genesee Ramblers are at the Old Town on Sunday, February 8, and at the Blind Pig on Saturday, February 28.

—Stephanie Kadel-Taras

27 & 28: Organissimo. Lansing jazz trio led by B-3 organist Jim Alfredson.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. 996-8555

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Also, occasional early shows, 7-10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. **Every Tues. (except Feb. 10): "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands. **Feb. 4: The Scars.** Local rock 'n' roll trio that's been described as a cross between the Jesus & Mary Chain and Mazzy Star. Opening acts are the **Everyothers**, a New York City garage rock band, and **Fifth Period Fever**, a local pop band. **Feb. 5: Inner Recipe.** Local pop-rock band. Opening acts are **Oblivion**, a local alternative rock band, and **De Novo**, a local female-fronted rock band. **Feb. 6: The Big Wu.** Groove-oriented funk-rock band from Minneapolis. See Events. **Feb. 7: "Bob Marley Birthday Bash."** See Events. **Feb. 10: Stained Glass Perspective.** Boulder, Colorado, quartet, that plays catchy, hard-driving rock 'n' roll. Opening acts are **Arizing**, a Detroit alternative rock band, and **Auto Pilot**, a shoegazer band led by former Laughing Hyenas drummer Todd Swalla. **Feb. 11: Spira.** Local emo-flavored alternative rock band. Opening acts are **The Book Was Better**, a local indie rock quartet, and the **Optionals**, a Detroit rock band. **Feb. 12: Benvenuto & Russo.** Jam-oriented jazz-funk organ-and-drum duo from New York City. See Events. **Feb. 13: The Sights.** Detroit rock 'n' roll band. See Events. **Feb. 14: The Bang!** DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Feb. 18: Pat McGee Band.** Acoustic rock band from Virginia. See Events. **Feb. 19: Pete Schmidt.** A Toronto singer-songwriter and guitarist who performs blues

originals in a variety of traditional styles. Opening acts are local pop singer-songwriter **Jesse Young**, the local pop-rock acoustic duo **Changes**, and the local pop singer-songwriter **Kevin Roney**. **Feb. 20: Rootstand.** Local band whose music blends bluegrass, blues, reggae, and Celtic folk idioms and instrumentation. Opening act is **Glowb**, a neopsychedelic funk-rock jam band from Flint. **Feb. 21: Sista Otis.** Postgrunge folk-rock singer-songwriter from Detroit. Opening act is **Blind Shame**, a Detroit rock band. **Feb. 25 & 26: TBA.** **Feb. 27: Summon.** Flint death metal band. Opening acts are the metal bands **Nocturnal Fear**, **Sauron**, **Mutilated**, and **Wartorn**. **Feb. 28: The Ingham County Regulars.** Lansing band that plays 60s honky-tonk and rockabilly. Opening acts are **Mike Boyd and the Genesee Ramblers** (see review, above), a local country and blues band led by the versatile singer-songwriter Boyd. Also, the nationally prominent local alt-country-flavored folk-rock singer-songwriter **Jim Roll**, and the local alt-country band **Chad Williams & His Lonesome Plowboys**. **Feb. 29: Dada.** Power-pop trio from L.A. See Events.

Cafe Felix

204 S. Main 662-8650

This downtown cafe features live music Fri., 9 p.m.-midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri.: The Underground Jazz Quartet.** This local jazz quartet plays a mix of standards, blues, contemporary pieces, and originals, with an emphasis on Hammond B-3 styles of the likes of Jimmy Smith, Larry Young, and Jack McDuff. Members are guitarist Tom Sinas, organist Duncan McMillian, alto saxophonist Dean Moore, and drummer Jordan Young.

Cavern Club

210 S. First St. 913-8890

This downtown club, in the Celebration Cellars banquet space in the basement under the Millennium

Club, features DJs on Thurs. and live music on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Millennium Club and Gotham City), dancing. Age 21 (men) and 19 (women) & older admitted. **Feb. 6: Bugs Beddow Band.** Versatile horn-driven R&B, boogie-rock, blues, and jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Beddow. **Feb. 7: Joce'lyn B & the Detroit Street Players.** Detroit blues band led by Joce'lyn B, a popular vocalist who's said to blend the voice of "Bessie Smith, the attitude of Mae West, and the mouth of Moms Mabley." **Feb. 13: Thornetta Davis.** Soulful, rocking Detroit-style R&B by a band led by Davis, a powerful, Etta James-style vocalist. **Feb. 14: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Wayne. **Feb. 20: Joce'lyn B & the Detroit Street Players.** See above. **Feb. 21: Jerry Sprague Band.** Roots-rock band led by veteran local singer-guitarist Sprague. **Feb. 27: Immunity.** Local dancehall reggae band. **Feb. 28: Universal Xpression.** Detroit-based band that plays reggae, soca, and calypso.

Club Above

215 N. Main 663-7758

This renovated dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg Restaurant features a variety of live and recorded music Thurs.-Sun., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. unless otherwise noted. Also, comedy on Tues. (see Events), and karaoke on Wed., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & older admitted unless otherwise noted. **Every Fri.: Latino Night.** DJ Miguel plays salsa, merengue, reggae, and other Latin dance records. Also, salsa lessons, 9-10 p.m. **Every Sun.: Mexican Night.** With live bands and/or DJs. **Feb. 5: Relapse.** Local college rock band. Opening act is **Seahorse Napkin Force**, a local rock band. **Feb. 7: Deep Space Six.** Popular local Grateful Dead cover band. **Feb. 12: William Wyatt Band.** Young Hartland band that plays classic rock covers by the likes of Bob Dylan and Neil Young. Opening act is **Gordon Bennett**,

a Detroit rock 'n' roll quintet that plays covers and originals. **Feb. 14: Motown Rage.** Classic Detroit rock 'n' roll by this Ferndale band. Opening act TBA. **Feb. 19: The Den Band.** Jazzy groove-rock. Opening act is **Madison Greene**, an acoustic rock band from Taylor. **Feb. 21: Sparklemotion.** See Tap Room. Opening act TBA. **Feb. 26: Tim Fagan and Tim Monger.** Double bill. Fagan, a local singer-songwriter known for a lively sense of humor whose music blends folk, pop, and jazz influences. Tonight he celebrates the release of his debut CD. Monger is a country-folk singer-songwriter from the Original Brothers & Sisters of Love. Opening act is **Kurt Richardson**, a singer-songwriter who performs covers and originals. **Feb. 28: Median and Fith.** Double bill. Median is a local alternative rock band, and Fith is a local postpunk hard-rock band. Opening act TBA.

Club Bedrocks

2900 Jackson Rd. 665-4444
Lounge in the Best Western Suites. DJs on Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Fri.:**



Popular Wayne rock 'n' roll cover band the Killer Flamingos plays the Cavern Club on Valentine's Day.

"Mix & Mingle." DJs spin old school, R&B, reggae, techno, and hip-hop dance records. **Every Sat.: Latino Night.** DJs play Latin dance music.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main 665-2968
Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. (6:30-10 p.m.) and Tues. & Thurs. and occasional other nights (9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.). **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Feb. 3: S. G. Wood.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this singer-guitarist. Tonight's show is a Mardi Gras party. **Feb. 4: Tim Sagen.** Traditional Irish songs and pop covers by this engaging singer-guitarist, who also peppers his performances with music trivia questions. **Feb. 5: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Feb. 10: Robert Bugar.** Folk-rock singer-guitarist. **Feb. 11: Bill Long.** Irish rock and American pop by this local singer-guitarist. **Feb. 12: Tim Sagen.** See above. **Feb. 17: S. G. Wood.** See above. **Feb. 10: Mossy Moran.** See above. **Feb. 19: John & Mike Bugar.** **Feb. 24: Robert Bugar.** See above. **Feb. 25: Tim Sagen.** See above. **Feb. 26: Bill Long.** See above.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main 665-9468
This tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30-10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 6: Bruce Bale.** Veteran local singer-songwriter known for his driving guitar grooves, smooth steady voice, and passionate, witty lyrics. **Feb. 7: Dale Osborn.** Leo Kottke-style singer-guitarist who performs tasty

covers and originals. **Feb. 13: Tim Fagan.** See Club Above. **Feb. 14: Kristi Hanson and the Femme Quartet.** Acoustic folk-rock quartet led by this local singer-songwriter and guitarist. With cellist Alisa Horn, oboist Jocelyn Frank, and drummer Nicole Turney. **Feb. 20: Santi Holley.** Local folksinger whose repertoire includes field hollers, delta blues, union songs, and work ballads, along with original songs in a similar vein. **Feb. 21: Kris Sepe.** Local singer-songwriter recently returned to town after studying traditional music in Ireland. She recently released her 3rd CD, *Empire*. Opening act is **Sari Brown**, a talented young local singer-songwriter who writes folk-style story songs with poetic lyrics and a strong political sensibility. **Feb. 27: Kyle Norris.** Local roots-country singer-songwriter who writes richly imagined, emotionally potent songs that reflect influences as diverse as Ani DiFranco and Dolly Parton. **Feb. 28: Chris Bathgate.** Heartfelt, poetic story songs in a variety of moods by this local singer-songwriter.

The Earle

121 W. Washington 994-0211
Restaurant with live jazz Mon.-Sat., 8-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.: Rick Burgess.** Solo pianist. **Every Tues.: Duncan McMillian.**

Solo pianist. **Every Wed.: Rick Burgess.** Solo pianist. **Every Thurs.: Jake Reichbart.** Solo jazz guitarist. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Rick Burgess Trio.** Jazz ensemble featuring pianist Burgess, bassist Robert Warren, and a drummer TBA.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington, Ypsilanti 483-6374
This Ypsilanti tavern features live music and/or DJs Mon., Thurs., and occasional other weeknights, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "Stephanie Says."** DJ Miss Pia plays a wide range of vintage dance music, from British Invasion and Motown to disco and 80s pop. **Every Wed.: DJ Chuck.** DJ who plays everything from garage and glam to punk and contemporary rock. **Feb. 6: Downtown Brown.** Ypsilanti jam band. Opening acts are the local rock band **The Damn Bandits**, the local pop-punk band **Molly**, and **PB Army**, a goof-rock band from Toledo. **Feb. 7: Calling All Heroes.** Local punk band. Opening act is the local college rock band **Kill Drama**, the local emo band **Capone**, and the melodic Ypsilanti emcore band **Dropjaw**. **Feb. 8: Lanternjack.** Downriver punk band. Opening acts are the Kentucky sleaze-rock husband-and-wife duo **The Vibrolas**, the Pontiac hardcore band **The Smashbandits**, and **Choking Susan**, an irreverently trashy Detroit punk quartet fronted by singer-songwriter Colleen Caffeine. **Feb. 13: Switchstance.** Popular Detroit hip-hop duo. Opening acts are the pop-metal band **The Phage**, the Christian punk band **Withinfourwalls**, the indie rock band **The Recital**, the female-fronted pop band **A Is for A**, and the indie rock band **The Javelins**. **Feb. 14: TBA.** **Feb. 16: Law of All Ends.** Iowa screamo band. Opening acts are the noise-pop band **Drag King**, the local metal band

Threatener, and the Ypsilanti math-metal band **Human Wick Effect**. **Feb. 19: Mind Correction.** Ypsilanti rock band. **Feb. 20: Frankennixon.** Piano-based indie rock by this Iowa band fronted by the seductively chaotic vocals of Evelyn Finch. Opening acts are the San Francisco punk rock band **Amortifera**, the electronic pop-noise band **Casonauts**, and the northern Kentucky indie pop band **Morals Galore**. **Feb. 22: The Flirt.** Old-school Detroit punk band. Opening acts are the all-female Kalamazoo rock band **Melt**, the funk-rock band **Too Ugly for Porn**, and **Blammo**, a veteran local sextet that plays a blend of wickedly humorous, socially observant originals and choice punk covers by the likes of Patti Smith, the Dead Kennedys, X, and the Ramones. **Feb. 22: Your Black Star.** Artful, rhythmically dynamic guitar-based pop band from Louisville. Opening acts are the Toledo ambient band **Shuttlecock**, the Long Island alternative pop-rock band **Ultra High Frequency**, and **Lingua Franca**, a Flint band that plays Tom Waits-influenced pop. **Feb. 26: "Talking about the Byrds."** Byrds tribute show hosted by the local alt-country band **Corndaddy** and featuring members of several top area "alt-whatever" bands. **Feb. 27: Giant Step.** Chicago hard-rock band. Opening acts are the Kalamazoo rock 'n' roll band **Landlords**, the almost-all-female Kalamazoo rock band **Sylvia Trench**, and the Americana-oriented rock band **Midwestern Lull**. **Feb. 28: The Impaler.** Detroit Goth band led by this vocalist. Opening acts are the Detroit pop-rock band **Coon**, the local hard-rock band **Glass**, and **The Rabbit Sons**, a local band that plays a wacky brand of roots music, a la the Holy Modal Rounders.

Espresso Royale Caffe

214 S. Main 668-1838
The downtown location of this popular coffeehouse features live music on Sat., 9-11 p.m. **Feb. 7: North.** Local semi-acoustic folk-rock trio that has released a CD, *Revolutions*. **Feb. 14: Kyle Norris.** See Crazy Wisdom. **Feb. 21: Bruce Bale.** See Crazy Wisdom. **Feb. 28: Khalid Hanifi.** Classy, bewitching rock 'n' roll originals by this veteran local singer-songwriter whose music blends the Beatles' musical inventiveness with the verbal wit and vocal craftiness of an Elvis Costello. His current band includes his longtime bassist Onie Werth, veteran local guitar genius George Bedard, and Kingpins drummer Richard Dishman.

The Firefly Club

207 S. Ashley 665-9090
Jazz and blues club. Live jazz Mon., occasional Tues., Wed., & Thurs., 8 p.m.-midnight; Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.-1 a.m.; & Sun., 8:30-11:30 p.m. Also, happy-hour music Sun., 5-8 p.m. Sun. jazz brunch, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Cover (unless otherwise noted), dancing. **Every Fri. (5:30-8 p.m.): Easy Street Swingtet.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Paul Klinger. **Every Sun. (5-8 p.m.): Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 20s and early 30s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. The rest of the lineup includes 3 saxophonists/clarinetists, 2 trumpeters, a trombonist, a guitarist/banjo player, and a drummer. **Every Sun.: Into the Freylakh.** Energetic, musically inventive local avant-klezmer sextet. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band, formerly known as the Bird of Paradise Orchestra, led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Susan Chastain. **Every Wed.: Paul Keller Ensemble.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this ensemble led by bassist Keller that features 3 horns. **Every Thurs.: Los Gatos.** Mambo and cha-cha by this local Latin jazz band that specializes in the music of Cal Tjader, the late San Francisco vibes player who ignited the 1950s mambo craze. Led by drummer Pete Siers, the group also includes vibes player Cary Kocher, bassist Kurt Krahnke, pianist Brian DiBlassio, and percussionist Jonathan Ovale. Preceded at 7 p.m. by free Latin dance lessons. **Feb. 3: Jazz Jam Session.** All jazz musicians invited. **Feb. 6: Organissimo.** See Bird of Paradise. **Feb. 7: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, up-town swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. The band has a CD, *Well Tuned*. With guitarist Dave Fero, blues harpist and keyboardist Phil Ryski, saxophonist Willie Rankin, bassist Wendy Hayes, and drummer Lenny Gilpatrick. **Feb. 10: "What We Do for Love."** Valentine's cabaret with U-M musical theater students. See Events. 7-10 p.m. **Feb. 13 & 14: TBA.** **Feb. 20: Community High School Jazz All-Star Alumni Reunion.** Jazz ensemble featuring alumni of Community's nationally known

jazz program. **Feb. 21: Paul Keller Ensemble.** See above. **Feb. 27: Shahida Nurullah.** Jazz ensemble led by this big-voiced Detroit jazz singer who specializes in blues, ballads, Brazilian tunes, and pop standards. **Feb. 28: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style is something of a cross between Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle.

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron 623-2070.
Martini and cigar bar connected to D'Amato's restaurant. Live jazz Wed.-Sat., 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. **Every Tues.: "Deep-Chilled House & Techno."** With DJ R. Elliot. **Every Wed. & Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist. **Feb. 6: Tropicdelic.** Detroit Latin jazz ensemble. **Feb. 7: Odessa Harris.** This Detroit vocalist, who sings bluesy jazz in the style of Dinah Washington, is backed by a jazz trio. **Feb. 13: Carl Michel Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by this local guitarist. **Feb. 14: Terraplanes.** See Firefly. **Feb. 20: Sparklemotion.** See Tap Room. **Feb. 21: Jake Reichbart Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by local guitarist Reichbart. **Feb. 27: Al Hill Band.** Blues, R&B, soul, standards, originals, and obscurities by this local quartet led by Hill's wailing vocals and pumping piano. With bassist Pat Prouty, saxophonist Dave Luther, and a drummer TBA. **Feb. 28: Bus Stop.** Local blues-rock band fronted by Julie Ingalls.

Gotham City

210 S. First St. 913-8890
This downtown dance club, located above the Cavern Club and adjacent to the Millennium Club, features DJs on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Cavern and Millennium clubs), dancing. Age 21 (men) and 19 (women) & older admitted. **Every Fri. & Sat.: House Night.** With DJ J Smooth.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. 665-3636
Newly remodeled lounge at Weber's Inn. Solo piano (6-9 p.m.) by **Adam Riccinto** (Tues.-Fri.) and **Tom Knapp** (Sat. & Sun.). Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "Monday Groove."** With DJ Miguel White. 7 p.m.-midnight. **Feb. 3-7: Johnny Green & the Green Men.** Top 40 dance band with a flashily choreographed stage show. **Feb. 10-12: Rave.** Pop dance band. **Feb. 13 & 14: Nite Flight.** Local reggae and calypso band. **Feb. 17-21: Rumpelstiltskin.** Motown and other classic dance pop by this popular 8-piece Las Vegas-style show band. **Feb. 24-28: Risque.** Pop-soul dance band from Traverse City that plays lots of Motown covers.

Leonardo's

2101 Bonisteel Blvd. 764-7544
Performance area in the food court at the Pierpont Commons on the U-M North Campus. Dancing, no cover. **Feb. 6: "Salsa Night."** With a DJ TBA. 9 p.m.-midnight. **Feb. 13: "2nd Friday Swing Night."** With the **Johnstown Cats**, a local big band that plays classic and contemporary swing, with seasonings of blues and rock. Swing dance lessons (9-10 p.m.), 9 p.m.-midnight. **Feb. 20: Open Mike Night.** All U-M-affiliated performers invited; sign-up is at 7:45 p.m. A monthly winner chosen by the audience gets a paid gig at Leonardo's at some future date. The open mike is followed by a performance by a winner TBA of a previous open mike competition. 8 p.m.-midnight.

Millennium Club

210 S. First St. 913-8890
This downtown dance club, located above the Cavern Club and adjacent to the Gotham City club, features DJs Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Cavern Club and Gotham City), dancing. Age 21 (men) and 19 (women) & older admitted. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Techno Nite.** With DJ Mad Maxx.

Mitch's Place

1301 South University 665-2650
This bar and grill features live music Tues. & frequent other nights, 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Cover, some dancing. **Every Tues.: Jerry Sprague.** Veteran local roots-rock singer-guitarist. Remainder of Feb. schedule TBA.

The Necto

510 E. Liberty 994-5436
This popular local dance club features local and na-



Atlanta-based folk-rock singer-songwriter Doria Roberts plays a politically charged blend of soulfulness and sass at the Ark Feb. 24.

tional DJs 5 nights a week, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (after 10 p.m.), dancing. **Every Tues.:** "Retro." DJ Marquee & Scott Brandon play 70s disco, 80s New Wave, and 90s techno and house dance classics. **Every Wed.:** "Popular." Cutting-edge electronic and rock dance music with DJ Scott Brandon and guest DJs and live performers TBA. **Every Thurs.:** "Lust." House, progressive house, techno, and trance with national and international guest DJs. This month: **Doc Martin** (Feb. 5), **Marco V** (Feb. 12), **Dave Seaman** (Feb. 19), and **Saeed & Palash** (Feb. 26). **Every Fri.:** "Pride." With DJs Timmy D and Blur. **Every Sat.:** "Frequency." In the main room DJ Binzo plays Top 40 hip-hop and dance music, and in the red room DJ Marquee plays a variety of retro party music.

Old Town 122 W. Liberty 662-9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. and occasional other nights, 8-10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Feb. 1:** No music. **Feb. 8:** Mike Boyd and the Genesee Ramblers. See Blind Pig. **Feb. 15:** Jud Branam and Kevin Brown. Duo performance by these 2 singer-guitarists from the alt-country band Corndaddy. **Feb. 22:** John Latini. Acoustic rock-based originals by this veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter. **Feb. 29:** Eric Kelly. Local singer-songwriter who writes raw, Dylanesque folk-style songs.

Oz's Music Environment 1920 Packard 662-8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most nights of the week, 8-10 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.** (except Feb. 25): "Acoustic Open Stage." All acoustic musicians invited. The Feb. 11 open stage is for songwriters. 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Rick's American Cafe 611 Church 996-2747

This campus-area club features DJs Mon., Wed., Fri., & Sat., 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Large dance floor. Dancing, cover. **Every Mon. & Thurs.:** "Jammin' DJs." DJs TBA play dance music. **Every Wed.:** "High Energy Dance Party." With DJ John King. **Every Fri. & Sat.:** Supermack. Techno music with DJs from Supermack Productions.

Rubber Soul Records 115 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 483-8834

Record shop-coffeehouse recently relocated from Depot Town. Live music, usually 1 or 2 nights a week and usually running 8-10 p.m. Cover (unless otherwise noted), no dancing. **Feb. 20:** Robert Richmond and Marianne Murphy. Record release party for these 2 area Americana singer-songwriters, both of whom perform with their bands.

Feb. 21: Chris Richards Trio. Detroit-area power pop trio. Opening act is The Nice Device, a Detroit pop-rock garage quartet fronted by vocalist Alicia. **Feb. 28:** "Psychedelic Psaturday." With Dune Buggy Attack Battalion, a local alt-country band that takes its cues from singer-songwriter-based psychedelic rock by the likes of the Byrds and the 13th Floor Elevators.

Scorekeepers Sports Bar & Grill 310 Maynard 995-0100

DJs on Tues. & Thurs., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & older admitted. **Every Tues.:** Dance Music. With DJs TBA. **Every Wed.:** Blues Jam. Hosted by the Master Tones, a local blues band. All blues musicians and vocalists invited. **Every Thurs.-Sat.:** Dance Music. With DJs TBA.

Studio 4 313 S. Fourth Ave. 302-3687

This dinner club features DJs Wed.-Sun., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., playing a wide variety of dance music. Cover (women admitted free on Fri. before 11 p.m.), dancing. Age 21 & older admitted. **Every Wed.-Sun.:** DJs play dance music TBA.

TC's Speakeasy 207 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 483-4470

This downtown Ypsilanti tavern features karaoke on Tues., DJs on Wed., open mike on Thurs., and DJs or dance bands on Fri. & Sat. (9:30 p.m.-2 a.m.). Dancing, no cover unless otherwise noted. **Every Sun.:** Reggae. Old and new reggae records with One Root Sound DJ Selector Joshua. **Every Wed.:** "College Remix." With DJ Major. **Every Thurs.:** Open Mike. Hosted by Rootstand frontman Brant. All musicians invited. **Feb. 6:** Twistin' Tarantulas. Very popular Detroit rockabilly band. **Feb. 7:** Rootstand. See Blind Pig. **Feb. 13:** Soot. Local heavy-funk rock quartet. **Feb. 14:** La Trinity. Veteran local roots reggae band. **Feb. 20:** No music. Performances by 2 stand-up comics TBA. **Feb. 21:** Deep Space Six. See Club Above. **Feb. 27:** Kill Press. Alternative rock band. **Feb. 28:** Ghettabillies. Local acoustic guitar trio that specializes in sweet and gritty country-rock with glee club harmonies, a frat band lyrical sensibility, and occasional neopsychedelic yearnings.

Tap Room 201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482-5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music 6 nights a week, usually 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Sun.:** Sparklemotion. Local quintet that plays jazz, soul, and avant-funk originals. **Every Mon.:** Open Mike Unplugged. Hosted by Chris Buhalis, a local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist. All acoustic performers invited. 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. **Every Tues.:** Blues Jam. Hosted by Toledo blues harpist Johnny Reed. All bands and musicians invited. **Every Wed.:** Kris Kashew's Musical Rollercoaster. DJ plays dance records. **Every Thurs.:** Open Mike. Hosted by The Martindales, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All acoustic and electric musicians invited. **Feb. 6:** The Martindales. See above. **Feb. 7:** Johnny Reed & the Houserockers. Toledo blues band led by singer and blues harpist Reed. **Feb. 13 & 14:** Lady Sunshine & the X Band. See Cavern Club. **Feb. 20:** Billy Mack & the Juke Joint Johnnies. Detroit rockabilly quartet led by singer-songwriter and drummer Mack. **Feb. 21:** The Kenny Parker Blues Band. Upbeat blues and rockabilly originals by this band led by Parker, a singer-songwriter and guitarist from Toledo. **Feb. 27 & 28:** The Witch Doctors. This local blues and R&B band led by singer-guitarist Thayrone, best known as the host of the nationally syndicated *Bone Conduction Music Show*, plays what Thayrone calls "way-strong mojo, ritualistic barroom blues healing."

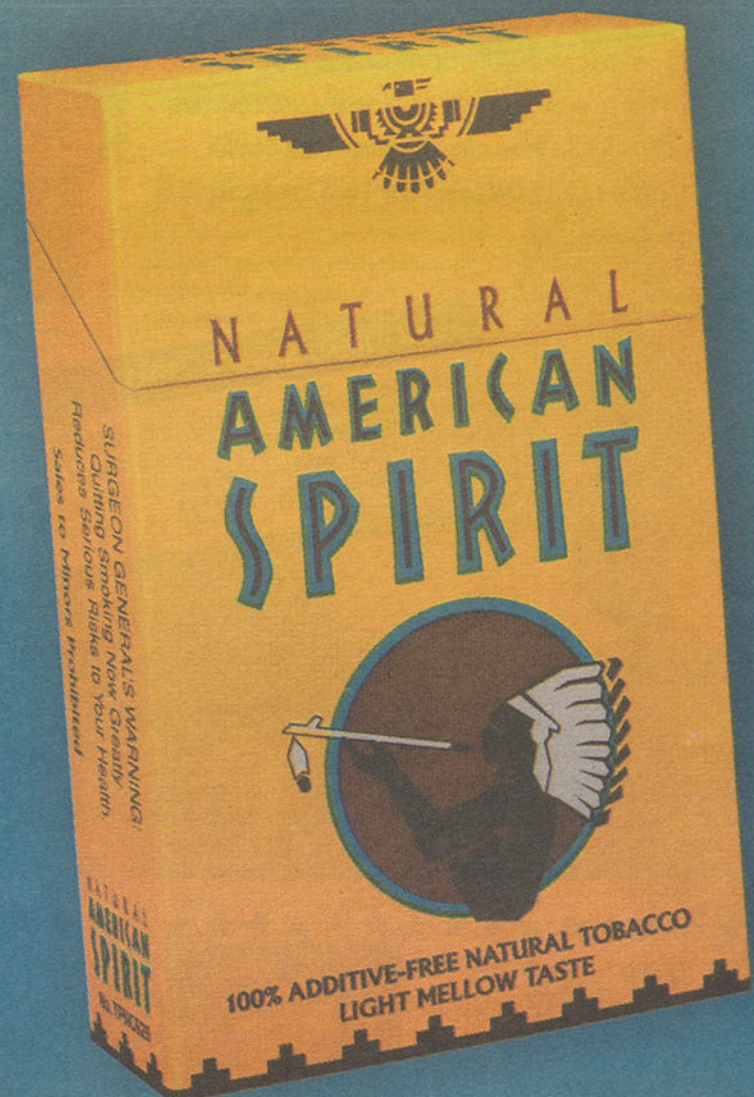
Touchdown Cafe 1220 South University 665-7777

This campus-area cafe features music Wed.-Fri., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. February schedule TBA.

Zydeco 314 S. Main 995-3600

Live music Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.-midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri. & Sat.:** Solo pianists TBA.

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Personals ads in the Ann Arbor Observer are eligible for our monthly contest. The winner, chosen for creativity and originality, will receive certificates for **Dinner for Two at The Earle and Coffee and Dessert for Two at Espresso Royale Caffe.**



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Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104



Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase
314 East Liberty Ann Arbor


Tracy Smith

February 12 13 14

♥ Valentine's Weekend ♥

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"She's So Funny" "Make Me Laugh"
"Evening at the Improv"
"Half Hour Comedy Hour"
"Stand Up Stand Up"
"Girl's Night Out"

Thurs \$9 in adv \$11 at door
Fri & Sat \$12 in adv \$14 at door




Andres Fernandez

February 26 27 28

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"Stand Up Stand Up" "An American Family"


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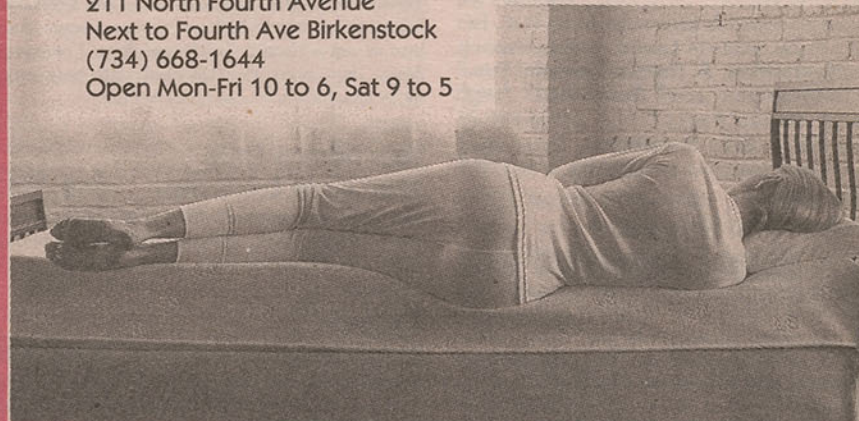
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A=Asian	✉=Letters
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D=Divorced	ND=Nondrinker
F=Female	NS=Nonsmoker
G=Gay	☎=Phone Calls
H=Hispanic	P=Professional
H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate	S=Single
ISO=In Search Of	W=White
J=Jewish	

women seeking men

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 10.

PERSONAL CALL (900) 226-8978

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Cheerful, petite SWF, 50. Loves the outdoors, music, good cooking, good causes. Bureaucrat. ISO easygoing, cheerful, NS, intelligent man about my age. #5268

Freshly 40 town-and-country girl with a rockin' blues soul and sense of adventure. ISO you, 35+, confident, honest, and no lines. Letters would be terrific! #5279

SWF, 42, semiattractive single parent. Interests include walking, golf, baseball, softball, racquetball, and cooking. Prefer SWM, 40-50, decent looking, honest, sincere, children OK. Creeps and playboys need not call! #5269

Young woman in her late fifties, attractive blonde, petite, sensitive, financially independent. ISO WPM, 55-68, who is kind, smart, and educated, and who enjoys life, for companionship, maybe LTR. #5252

SWF, 50, ISO gentleman for fun and friendship. Enjoy simple pleasures, music, nature walks, bookstores, canoeing/camping, kids, gardening, galleries, and more. #5267

Alluring, esemplastic, mysterious, some say. SBPF ISO S/DM who sees beauty beyond the body and into the mind. #5278

Independent and attractive, classy WPF, financial analyst, 5'3", early 50s ISO 5'10"+ WPM, 45-65, NS, and hopeless romantic who loves to cook. #5247

Warm WF, 5'10", educated, positive, sense of humor, NS. Likes good conversation, trivia, genealogy, movies, outdoors, and dogs. Seeks LTR with similar WM, 45-60. #5149

Looking for the lawyer with area code (248) who responded to #5226 in November. I lost your phone number! All other nice Romeos encouraged to respond also! #5226

Classy lady with great sense of humor and beautiful smile ISO man, 50-60. I'm petite, 5'3", 120 lbs., financially secure, no dependents. Am I someone you'd like to know? #5261

SWF, 37, attractive, loving, caring, non-controlling. ISO dependable SM, 35-50, who enjoys life and sharing good times for friendship and possible LTR. #5244

Return of a native (after 21 years in NYC). 48, fit, fairly cute, SWPF, NS. Passionate about things that matter, appreciative (of kindness, brilliance, friendship, wit, great art—any form). Have not yet found a partner (other than some wonderful dance partners!). #5265

Enjoy walking, reading, traveling, fun? Attractive, caring, fun-loving, DWPF, 59, ISO honest, caring, widowed/DWPM, 55-68, for companionship, maybe LTR. #5245

Attractive, fun, witty, 41, Caucasian woman enjoys music (amateur harpist), reading, writing, and walking golden retriever! Seeking down-to-earth, smart, kind guy who enjoys travel, animals, and ethnic food. #5243

SWCF. Not exactly how I pictured things. European beauty, 35, brown hair, green eyes, 5'7", 130. Seeking a man who is 6'+, fit, without dependents. #5250

Attractive, fit, loving, intelligent, DWPF, 41, educated, upbeat, single mom ISO warm, intelligent, educated, family-oriented, fit, NS, PM, single dad or child lover for close friendship and possible LTR. Perhaps a blended family! I love nature, animals, romance, and time without kids too! #5213

men seeking women

PERSONAL CALL (900) 226-8978

18 or older. Touch-Tone phone. \$1.95/min.

SWM, 43, I know a few things but want to keep growing. Like a woman who is secure in herself and willing to have go at something new. I'm 5'10", blond, and reasonably fit. #5276

SWM, 40, 6'3", fit, brown hair, blue eyes, intellectually curious, ISO fine woman, any race, who is both modern and ancient. Saucy and wholistic welcome. #5266

Size does matter! Very tall (6'5"), thin, eye-catching, childless, charismatic SWPM over 50 seeks tall, thin, eye-catching, childless, charismatic SWPF over 40 for slow dancing, cuddling, warmth, and enhancing each other's life. #5280

SWM, 42, seeks a trim, lively, optimistic, comfortable being nutty, animal loving, creative, adventurous, nonwimpy SWF who values depth. #5231

SWPM, 46, 5'8", fit, no dependents, flexible, persevering, communicative, humorous, introspective, and more. Seeking fit, emotionally available SWPF, 28-45. #5264

DWM, 50, 5'9", 150 lbs., no children, Ph.D. scientist/farmer in conservation/ecology. ISO woman scientist for rural life, international travel, romance. #4486

Single deaf man, uses sign language, 45, good looking, searching for women 37-42, 130-145 lbs, 5'4"-5'8", blue eyes, blonde, to go dancing Saturday nights and for new friendships. Letters only. #5232

Recently retired DWM, 58, 5'10½", 185 lbs., brown/brown. Enjoys walks, golf, bikes, movies, bridge, Scrabble, and good conversation. ISO sweet, kind, affectionate lady, 40-63, for friendship and a possible LTR. #4951

Educated, fit, DWPM loves dancing, the outdoors, the symphony. ISO thin, elegant woman, 39-47, who wants to be married. #3031

SWM, fit, slim, intelligent, educated, honest, accommodating. Interests: books, movies, music, travel. ISO similar SWF, intelligent, compatible, attractive, 40s-50s. #2918

SWPM, young 54, amateur violinist/chamber music addict, vegetarian, Buddhist, enjoys cycling, concerts, movies, Scrabble. ISO woman with similar interests. #5025

DWM, 56, retired, seeks NS active lady, friends first, who likes chocolate, contra dancing, travel, nature, humor, and conversation for LTR. #4943

women seeking women

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friendships

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general personals

FAKE AD CONTEST

Can you find the fake display ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a \$25 gift certificate from one of our advertisers. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, February 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: Fake Ad, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769-4950; e-mail: penny@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number).

ANN ARBOR JAYCEES

21-39 year olds looking to meet new people, give back to the community, gain leadership skills, try new things. The Ann Arbor Jaycees are for you! We offer something for everyone, the chance to meet new people, have fun while helping the community, improve leadership skills, and so much more. Visit our website www.a2jaycees.org for our calendar of events or call 913-9629.

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It's Easy to Respond to a Personals Ad!

To Respond by Phone, Call 1-900-226-8978

Follow the simple directions and you will be able to hear more about the people whose ads interest you, or you can browse ads by category. With one call, you can leave as many messages as you like. You may call anytime, 24 hours a day. Voice greetings are valid only for the month they appear in print.

You must be 18 or older.
Touch-Tone phones only. \$1.95 a minute.

Or to Respond by Phone Using a Credit Card, Call 1-888-718-4827

To Respond to a Personals Ad by Mail

Responses are forwarded for \$3 per letter. Put each letter in its own envelope with the box number and sufficient first-class postage on the front. Do not put your return address on the individual envelopes. Mail all responses (in a larger envelope) to the Observer; include a check for \$3 per response made payable to:

Ann Arbor Observer • 201 Catherine • Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Send us the information...

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- Your name, address, and daytime phone.
- Payment (by check, money order, or Visa/MasterCard).

The first 4 lines are FREE!

For singles who use the Personals Call voice-mail system, additional lines are \$7 each. Ads that indicate a preference for letters, or those under the "General" heading, cost \$7 per line for the entire ad.

Observer Personals Ads are also posted on
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Please call with any questions or comments:

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We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

Love is in the air!

Every Friday at 8:35 a.m. on Kool 107 FM, listen for the Personals Ads of the Week from Kool 107's Lucy Ann Lance and the Ann Arbor Observer's Melanie Ballance.

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employment

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Ann Arbor Observer

CITY GUIDE RESEARCHER
Researcher needed to update listings in the Ann Arbor Observer City Guide.

Full-time temporary position from April 5 to July 2.

People and phone skills valuable. Persistence and writing skills necessary. Knowledge of city helpful. Accuracy and attention to detail essential.

Send letter of interest and resume by February 16 to Michael Betzold, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 or e-mail michael@aaobserver.com

No phone calls, please.

Land Architects, Inc., a design/build company devoted to creative artistic design solutions for residential, commercial, and public projects, is hiring a Production Manager and Job Foreman for the spring 2004 season. Call 747-7938 or view the job descriptions and our projects at www.landarcs.com.

Wanted: Nanny for 3 mo. old in Ann Arbor home starting in May. Call (734) 761-3443.

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One night per week at Essential Energies Center for Holistic Living in Jackson. (517) 796-2082.

for sale

I SPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 107? If you can, you could win a copy of the latest edition of Jonathan Marwil's *A History of Ann Arbor*. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, February 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769-4950; e-mail: penny@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number).

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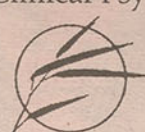
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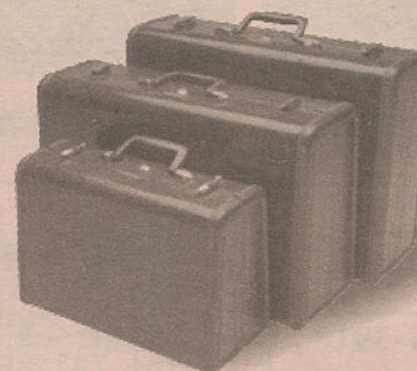
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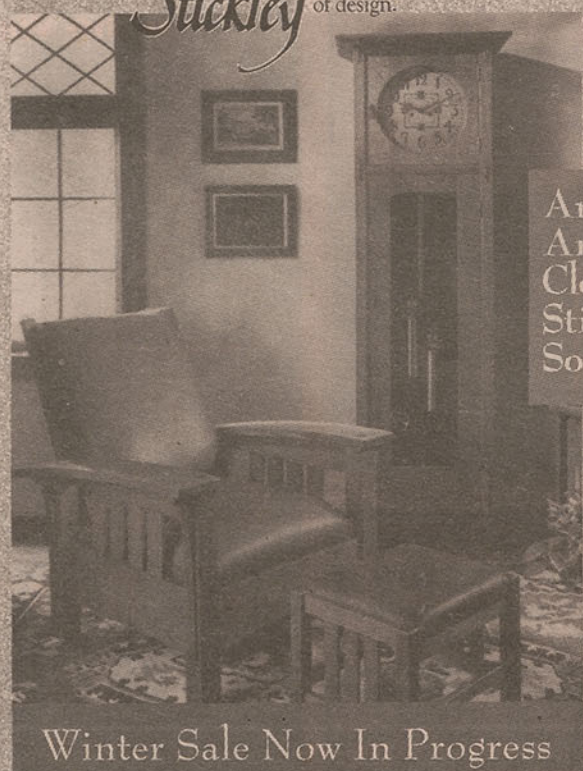


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GUIDE

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Ann Arbor 2583 Wagner. Wonderful 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Formal living & dining with crown moldings, remodeled kitchen with hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, 3-season porch. Large lot. \$439,900. #242241



Ann Arbor 2553 Thornapple. Stunning brick traditional 4100 sq. ft. Chizek built home on gorgeous, wooded acre. Quality finishes, 4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, study. Finished walkout LL with home theater! \$945,000. #240831



Chelsea 660 Creekside Ct. New, cute & desirable ranch with open floor plan & vaulted ceilings. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, stone front; detailed, quality construction. Call for plans & specs. \$238,000. #238033



Ann Arbor 205 High Orchard. Light filled, custom, spacious contemporary on an acre in the heart of Ann Arbor. 5 bedrooms, 2 studies, 4.5 baths, 2nd kitchen in walkout. \$1,675,000. #242561



Ann Arbor 560 Rock Creek. Brick ranch with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, wood burning fireplace & screened porch viewing gorgeous, professionally landscaped backyard. Wood floors under carpet. \$449,000. #240646



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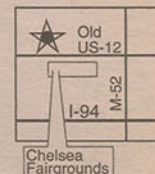
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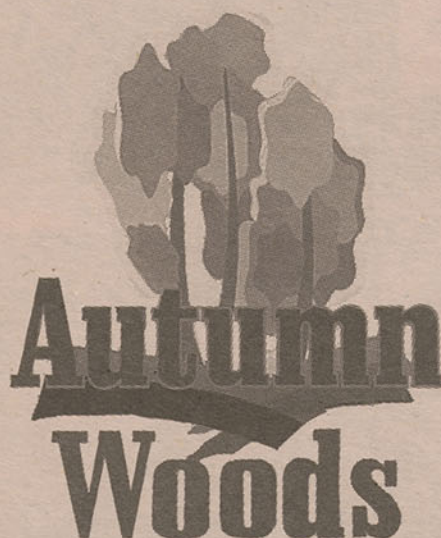
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On the Cover: Elegant and historic, the Hoover mansion dates to 1915. The house sits on 2.5 acres, and its original woodwork is intact.

Wonderful features abound and include 5 bedrooms, 4½ baths, 6 fireplaces, a ballroom, a finished lower level with a game room, and a copper roof. A 4,400-sq.-ft. carriage house is on the property. \$2,750,000. Charles Reinhart Company Realtors. (734) 665-0300.

Cover photo by J. Adrian Wylie

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Estate in northwest Ann Arbor with 6.48 acres of incredible privacy, exceptional gardens, acres of woods, and 200 ft of Huron River frontage. This European traditional features intricate millwork, beautiful built-ins, expansive master suite, mailroom, wine cellar plus a 4-car garage. 3 bedrooms with 4 full and 2 half baths. \$2,490,000 • ML#241914 • Nancy Bishop 761-3040



Wexford home of distinction at Travis Pointe Country Club. Incredible view of fifth green and pond. Gourmet kitchen opens to great room. Tray ceilings in study and first floor master suite. Circular staircase plus second staircase to large bonus suite. 4 bedrooms with 4 full and 1 half baths. \$849,000 • ML#238429 • Ron Herman 476-4082



Cedar Hills home on 3 glorious acres of towering hardwoods in Webster Township. This 6,500 sq. ft. estate has been finished to perfection. Oversized kitchen, first floor master suite, home theater, and floor-to-ceiling windows with stunning views of nature's very best. 5 bedrooms with 5 full baths. \$1,200,000 • ML#240718 • Nancy Bishop & Rob Ewing 761-3040/426-1000



Architecturally significant one-story home in Ives Wood. Rebuilt from the exterior walls in, this home has new top-of-the-line everything including chef's kitchen, fabulous master suite, study, family room and home theater. Dramatic central courtyard for changing seasons and year-around privacy. 4 bedrooms with 3 full and 1 half baths. \$1,250,000 • ML#238364 • Nancy Bishop 761-3040



Walnut Ridge's distinctive Wellington plan. Graceful roof lines and a great floor plan. Chef's kitchen with pantry and food prep island open to family room. Master suite with sitting area, two walk-in closets and deluxe bath. 4 bedrooms with 3 full and 2 half baths. \$880,000 • ML#229663 • Bill Flood & Julie Svinicki 646-7333



Exceptional home in Saginaw Hills Estate, on 3 park-like wooded acres with waterfall ponds and gardens. Handsome stone and wood exterior with breathtaking views. Wonderful attention to detail everywhere you look. 3 bedrooms with 2 full and 2 half baths. \$989,000 • ML#240085 • Ron Herman 476-4082



Comfortable elegance describes this Travis Pointe home on the fairway. Extensive master suite with a fantastic view. Very large chef's delight kitchen with upscale appliances and open eating/reading area. 3 bedrooms with 2 full and 1 half baths. \$755,000 • ML#240862 • Ron Herman 476-4082



Classic Burns Park family colonial in move-in condition. Gracious rooms with gleaming hardwood floors, first floor sunroom, and dramatic third floor master suite. Large family room expands the all white kitchen. Two fireplaces, deck and screened porch. 4 bedrooms with 2 full and 1 half baths. \$775,000 • ML#235120 • Carolyn Lepard 663-9202



The Pines of Lake Forest. Spectacular custom-built executive residence with nearly 7,500 sq. ft. of well-designed formal and casual living space. Quality amenities throughout. Quiet cul-de-sac location backing to wooded green space. 6 bedrooms with 5 full baths and 2 half baths. \$1,199,000 • ML#2400189 • Laura Dykstra 609-7874

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Henry Landau custom two-story on the second fairway of Travis Pointe. Soaring ceilings in great room and a bank of east exposure windows with great views of the course. First floor master suite with complete master bath. 4 bedrooms with 3 full and 1 half baths. \$779,000 • ML#239764 • Ron Herman 476-4082

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IMMACULATE west side Ann Arbor ranch with view out lower level windows, remodeled kitchen, updated baths, 4 bedrooms, screened porch, formal dining room, finished lower level. Wines school. Attached garage. \$285,000. **Timothy Harrison, 320-2212 / 662-8600.** (PO242155)



GREAT DEAL! Must see! One year of paid association dues. Clean, many updates, one bedroom, one bath, private basement large enough for stage, workout room, etc. Close to EMU campus. Ideal for student or person starting out. \$79,900. **LEE RUSSELL, 358-5367 / 662-8600.** (WA241018)



ELEGANT and easy living in this beautiful condo that has everything. Huge master suite with fireplace, walk-out lower level with screened porch and view of natural area. \$299,000. **Sue Collins, 646-6429 / 662-8600.** (RI240048)



PEACEFUL location for a well-maintained 2-story colonial. 2,298 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal dining room, living room, family room with fireplace, updated kitchen with cherry cabinets and Corian counters. Wooded acre lot with mature trees and plenty of nature. \$299,000. **Jim Kuhagen, 662-8600 ext. 424.** (AC242045)



SALINE CONDO - One year old, many upgrades, 9-ft. ceilings on main floor, open kitchen with upgraded cabinets, master suite, neutral décor, owner relocated. \$224,900. **Kristyn Huige, 417-5208 / 662-8600.** (BU240889)



TOTALLY WOODED building site in Ann Arbor. Premier neighborhood on the Northwest side. Walkout view of protected forest. Home to be built by Harris Homes. \$189,900. **Rick Jarzembowski, 645-3634 / 662-8600.** (NE231282)



TIMBER RIDGE 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath on 1 acre. Enjoy over 2,900 sq. ft. with formal living space on main floor plus bonus den upstairs, 3-car garage and in-ground pool. \$419,000. **Barbara Gaines, 439-8405 / 662-8600.** (RI241606)



GET READY TO CALL THIS HOME. This handsome TriMount-built 2-story sits on a premium wooded lot backing up to ravine. Open flowing floor plan lends itself to entertaining and family life. \$354,900. **Amy Griffith, 741-8852 / 662-8600.** (LE2400207)



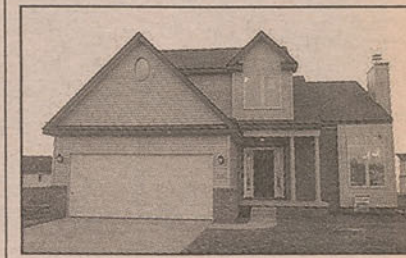
NEWER 3-BEDROOM HOME with first-floor master suite, great room with fireplace, formal dining room, huge finished walk-out. Quiet paved street. Only \$264,900. **Linda Tenza, 276-0200 / 662-8600.** (TA239975)



BEAUTIFUL 4-bedroom, 2,044 sq. ft. home has a formal dining room, living room and family room. Newer roof, Anderson windows, professionally landscaped with upgraded sprinkler system and home warranty. \$247,500. **Charles Woodrum, 330-4493 / 662-8600.** (GA240908)



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JUST FINISHED — Four bedrooms or 3 with a loft/office, 2.5 baths, formal dining plus breakfast room, living room with fireplace and first-floor laundry. \$299,000. **Barbara Gaines, 439-8405 / 662-8600.** (FA230567)



UPDATED DUPLEX in Ann Arbor on .55 acres. Five bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2.5-car garage. Kitchens and baths remodeled. Hardwood floors, new windows. \$305,000. **Timothy Harrison, 320-2212 / 662-8600.** (ST241951)



STONEBRIDGE GOLFING COMM. - Delightful 4-bedroom contemporary with first-floor master, 4.5 baths, vaulted great room, beautiful cherry kitchen with all appliances. Finished daylight lower level and private backyard. \$559,900. **John Romagnoli, 368-0300 / 662-8600.** (PR242702)



STATELY, ELEGANT AND SMART describes this estate home in Dexter. Gourmet kitchen, spa in master suite, home theater, recording studio and 10 person hot tub among the many amenities! Five bedrooms, 5 baths, plus finished lower level! \$1,295,000. **Sue Wright, 320-1243 / 426-1487.** (7516 Q)



CHARMING WEST SIDE cape cod, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, cozy fireplace, sunny updated kitchen, all new windows, central air, deep fenced lot, garage, all appliances. \$229,900. **Viviane Shammas, 645-4814 / 662-8600.** (FR241601)



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NEW LISTING - NEWPORT CREEK - Another stunning custom-built home by Harris Homes in Ann Arbor's premier custom home community. Gorgeous setting with ravine views and walkout basement. The interior of this 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home is spectacular with two-story family room, gourmet kitchen with granite, and luxury master suite. \$888,200. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - TRAVIS POINTE - Incredible custom-designed home under construction in one of the area's most sought-after communities. Contemporary lines with all the features you'd expect including custom kitchen, raised ceilings, lots of windows, huge master suite, and all the high-end finishes you would expect. \$850,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



GLENNBOROUGH. Harris Homes presents this outstanding 4-bedroom, 3-bath home on a spectacular walkout site in Glennborough. Perfect traditional design with 2-story foyer, den, family room with 11' ceiling, custom kitchen with granite and professional appliances, and dream master suite. \$799,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



THE WATERWAYS - This custom 4-bedroom, 3½-bath is loaded with features and amenities. Stunning inside and out with extensively landscaped treed lot with very private backyard setting. Interior has stunning spaces with two-story family room, first-floor master, bonus room, and finished basement. \$579,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



HAMBURG TWP - Gorgeous custom-built home with a stately hilltop setting. The finest materials used with extensive landscaping including a waterfall. Interior includes custom cherry kitchen with granite counters, hardwood floors, dramatic spaces, and tons of moldings. \$549,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Spectacular home under construction in the Arboretum by Bayberry. This 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home is a real winner with 2-story great room, first-floor master suite, 3-car garage, view out basement, and loaded with quality features. \$524,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100. (AM-222494)



NEW LISTING - SALINE - Bayberry construction in Saline's newest custom home community Huntington Woods. Stunning 4-bedroom, 3½-bath traditional design with many upgrades. Includes large kitchen with cherry and granite, oversized master suite, and walkout basement. \$495,175. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - CLEAR LAKE - Gorgeous property overlooking all-sports Clear Lake. Wonderful open design with vaulted ceiling in the great room, cherry kitchen, loft, and finished walkout basement. Extensive decking and wooded lot - this is a great lakefront home. \$479,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



HUNTINGTON WOODS - New construction by Bayberry in Saline's newest community. Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home loaded with upgrades. Open floor plan features large kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, great room with vaulted ceiling, and large master suite. \$451,834. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Super 5-bedroom, 2½-bath custom colonial on a spacious acre lot in Yorkshire Hills. Unique three-story design with Williamsburg exterior. Wonderful interior flows from open kitchen to family room, large master suite, and oversized backyard. \$419,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - STONEBRIDGE - Stunning detached condo on the #8 fairway in Stonebridge. This unit is loaded with quality features and amenities. Incredible remodeled kitchen with maple cabinets, granite counters, gorgeous sun room, luxury master suite, 3-car garage, and finished walkout basement. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SALINE - The former model home for Bayberry Construction in Sha Estates is now available. Gorgeous professionally-decorated 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home on an acre-plus site in this very desirable sub. Two-story foyer, den, Whitebay Kitchen, and luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - ANN ARBOR - 3-bedroom, 2½-bath end unit in Ann Arbor's newest urban condo development Kessler Commons. Enjoy striking design and décor with cherry kitchen, 2-car attached garage, luxury master suite, and flex-use 3rd floor. \$384,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100 for more information.



NEW LISTING - ANN ARBOR - One of six brand-new 3-bedroom, 2½-bath condos in Kessler Commons. Enjoy wonderful urban living walking distance to UM Hospital, central campus, and downtown. Superior design and features with attached 2-car garage, custom kitchens, designer décor, luxury master suite, and flex-use 3rd floor. \$369,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - GRASS LAKE - Enjoy the peaceful country setting of Sandhill Estates in this gorgeous 4-bedroom, 2½-bath new home. Great features and amenities with 3-car garage, view out basement, traditional colonial design, and numerous upgrades. \$291,755. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SALINE - Very desirable 4-bedroom, 2½-bath two-story home in Maplewood Farms. Great floor plan and many updates make this home a real value. Two-story foyer, wonderful kitchen with Corian countertops, formal dining room, and large brick paver patio. Perfect condition. \$259,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LINCOLN SCHOOLS - Super sharp 4-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial backing to a beautiful pond in Green Farms. You'll love the upgrades in this custom-built home with crown molding, white cabinets, large deck, and partially finished basement. \$249,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - CHELSEA SCHOOLS - Peaceful 3.5-acre country setting with like-new 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath cape cod. Gorgeous hilltop setting just north of town. Home has great room with fireplace, large kitchen, and first-floor master suite. \$249,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SALINE - Perfect 3-bedroom, 1½-bath ranch in Maplewood Farms. Enjoy this "like new" home in one of Saline's most desired communities. Wonderful open floor plan with vaulted ceilings, spacious living room, oversized lot, and deck. \$234,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - SALINE - Stunning 3-bedroom, 2½-bath freestanding condo in Woodcreek. This unit is perfect with no common walls, gorgeous setting, neutral décor, and finished basement. You will be impressed with the package of features and amenities. \$219,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

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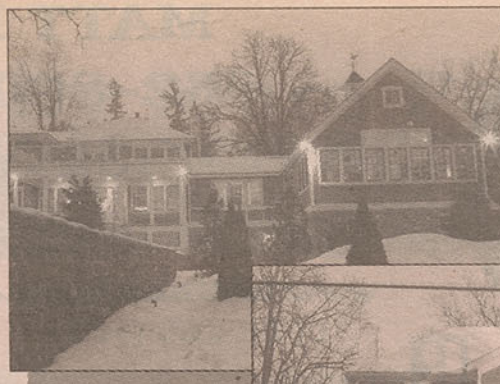
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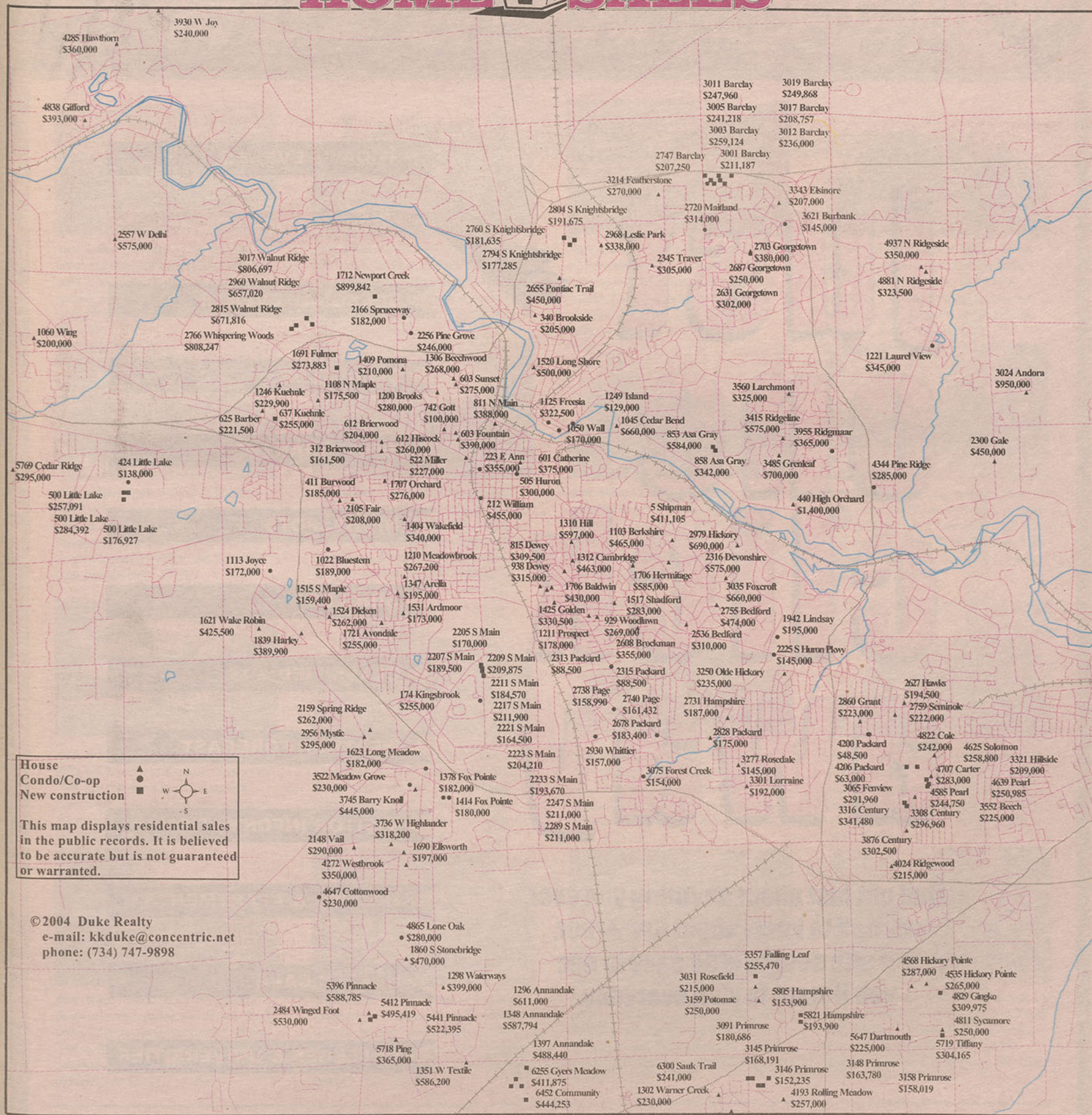
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DECEMBER 2003 HOME SALES



Sales of single-family homes snowballed in 2003 as seductively low interest rates added momentum to the market. We counted 1,714 sales of existing single-family homes in the Ann Arbor school district last year, excluding condos and new construction. That adds up to a \$539 million avalanche. The number of sales was up 12 percent over 2002 and even beat the previous all-time record, set in 2000.

Prices were carried along by the

surge in activity. The median price (half cost more, half cost less) was \$268,000, a 7 percent gain over the year before. The average price (mean) jumped 8 percent, to \$315,000.

The upward drift in prices was clearly evident in the increasing number of homes selling for more than \$400,000. In 2003, 335 homes sold for \$400,000 or more—an astonishing 40 percent increase over the 240 sales in this price range that

we counted in 2002.

Realtors handled 74 percent of the single-family sales in our sample, which counts only sales in the Ann Arbor school district and excludes condos and new construction. Realtors' own reports to the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors Multiple Listing Service disclose that the Charles Reinhart Company had a solid lock on first place in the race to sell Ann Arbor. Reinhart had a hand, as either listing or

selling agent, in 646 single-family home sales—26 percent of the total. The Edward Surovell Company brokered 557 transactions, for 22 percent. In number of transactions reported to the MLS, Reinhart and Surovell were followed by Real Estate One, with 298; Keller Williams, 231; RE/MAX, 201; Snyder, 79; Coldwell Banker, 66; Savarino, 35; Century 21, 34; and Spaly, 32.

—Kevin Duke



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Notable Homes

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Charles Reinhart Company Realtors



Ann Arbor The Ridge. 14 new detached luxury condos with their own signature style will nestle among trees and winding walkways, creating an intimate European style village. From \$704,000. Fran Jones 971-6070, eves 994-6505.



Ann Arbor Hoover mansion built in 1915. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 6 fireplaces, ballroom, original woodwork, finished lower level with game room, copper roof. 4400 sq. ft. carriage house. 2.5 acres. \$2,750,000. Lisa Stelter 665-0300, eves 645-7909.



Ann Arbor 6 luxurious condos left in the Fifth Avenue Building. 2 bedrooms, 2 or 2.5 baths, granite, hardwood, other exceptional finishes. Parking. Secure elevator access. \$590,000-\$1,290,000. Elizabeth Brien 665-0300, eves 734-645-4444. #234711



Dexter 4743 Meadowlark Lane. Fabulous brick home. New kitchen, limestone floors, granite, paint. 4600+ sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, study, in-ground pool. Brass Creek acre. \$699,000. Elizabeth Brien 665-0300, eves 734-645-4444. #239154



Ann Arbor Stately 4305 sq. ft. brick colonial. 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths on .78 acres. New addition master suite and family room. Renovated kitchen. New roof and furnace. Nanny quarters. \$1,095,000. Lisa Stelter 665-0300, eves 668-0892. #233927



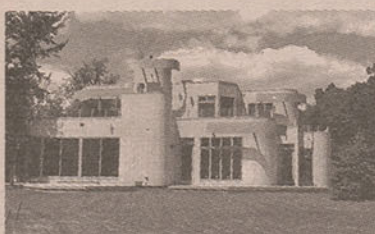
Ann Arbor University Commons maintenance-free adult condo community with UM ties. 10 condos left, 1200-1800 sq. ft., 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplaces, large windows. Several plans. \$303,000-\$404,000. Susan Gartin 665-0300, eves 734-645-7219. #224274



Ann Arbor 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath ranch on 2 acres. Great room with wood floors, fireplace and vaulted ceiling! Finished walk-out with family room and fireplace. 3-car garage, brick drive & patio. \$679,000. Fran Jones 971-6070, eves 994-6505. #241617



Jackson Architecturally redesigned and renovated (1993) home on tree-lined street. 3-4 bedrooms, 4 baths, formal and informal rooms, finished walkout. Pole barn. Much more! \$439,900. Susan Fitzpatrick 475-9600, eves 433-2603. #231787



Ann Arbor 6180 First. Peaceful setting with 400 ft. of Huron Riverfront. Spectacular new contemporary on 3 acres with pond, woods, dock. This home has everything you could want. \$1,800,000. Elizabeth Brien 665-0300, eves 734-645-4444. #227704



Ann Arbor House beautiful! Fantastic home with 80% brick, gorgeous decorating, terrific kitchen with custom cabinets and island, ceramic floors. 27x18 patio, professional landscaping. \$475,000. Fran Jones 971-6070, eves 994-6505. #242432



Ann Arbor 3650 Brittanie Dr. Beautiful! Open with tons of light. 1st floor guest suite plus 3 bedrooms, study, cherry kitchen with granite, hardwood floors, 3-car garage. One acre. Elizabeth Brien 665-0300, eves 734-645-4444. #239734



Saline York Township taxes. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with lots of maple flooring, tile in all baths, extra deep 3-car garage with 240 VAC and Marquis spa in sunroom. Saline schools. \$434,900. Todd Lands 429-9449, eves 355-2637. #240979



Ann Arbor Contemporary architectural design with commanding view of river. Maple floors, 3 two-way fireplaces, gourmet kitchen, 1600 sq. ft. master suite, 4-car garage. Spectacular! \$2,500,000. Rosemary Blackman 665-0300, eves 429-2372. #229655



Ann Arbor Brittan 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath brownstone. 12' ceilings, Kohler fixtures, Schrock cabinetry, custom moldings, living with french doors and fireplace, 2-car garage and more! \$570,000. Nancy L. Bahr 665-0300, eves 645-2598. #239870



Dexter Custom home in Deer Run. 2901 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, 1st floor study, formal living and dining, family room, 2 fireplaces, deck and 3-car garage. 1.5 acre lot. \$450,000. Rebecca Chelius 971-6070, eves 663-2807. #237327



Whitmore Lake Renovated 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath brick ranch. Private half acre with Huron River frontage, access to chain. Mahogany front door, skylights, hardwood. Pinckney Schools. \$449,900. Elizabeth Brien 665-0300, eves 734-645-4444. #242099

The Leader in the Sale of Fine Homes

Through December 31st, 2003 Reinhart leads the market, closing nearly 39% of the sales countywide above \$500,000.*

*Based in whole or part on data supplied by the Ann Arbor Board of Realtors or its Multiple Listing Services. They do not guarantee nor are they responsible for its accuracy. Market data maintained by the Board or its MLS excludes listings not published by the request of the seller.

East Sales Office
2452 East Stadium
971-6070

North Sales Office
2200 Green Road
747-7777

West Sales Office
2355 West Stadium
665-0300

Saline Sales Office
1020 E. Michigan Ave.
429-9449

Chelsea Sales Office
800 South Main
475-9600

Ypsilanti Sales Office
300 North Huron
480-4300

Grass Lk. Sales Office
300 E. Michigan Ave.
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	EARLY DESIGN AD	DESIGN AD	ALL ADS IN	PUBLICATION
SPRING	THURS., JAN. 29	THURS., FEB. 12	FRI., FEB. 20	WED., MAR. 10
2004-05 GUIDE	THURS., APR. 22	THURS., MAY. 6	TUES., MAY. 25	THURS., JUNE. 10
FALL	THURS., AUG. 5	WED., AUG. 18	WED., AUG. 25	WED., SEPT. 8
WINTER	THURS., OCT. 7	FRI., OCT. 22	WED., OCT. 27	WED., NOV. 10

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Arborweb Classifieds	arborweb.com/classindex.html
Christian Montessori	cmsaa.org
Common Grill	commongrill.com
Delux Drapery	deluxdrapery.com
The Earle	theearle.com
Emerson School	emerson-school.org
Esquire Interiors	esquireinteriors.com
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Grizzly Peak Brewing Company	michiganmenu.com
Kiwanis Club	aakiwanis.org
KOOL 107 FM	kool107.com
Materials Unlimited	materialsunlimited.com
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Downtown Ann Arbor & Ypsilanti Maps • Our Favorite Things

BACK PAGE

I SPY

by Sally Bjork

Kahn designed this "door"
Twenty years before
Olympic trials were held
Here. Seven minutes depict
A film record, from '06,
Which Library of Congress shelved.



To enter this month's I Spy contest, use the riddle above and the photo at right to find the spot shown, and send your entry to the address at the bottom of the page.

Vanishing public telephones mean less opportunity to spy items like January's feature, a vintage telephone sign on the side of Jefferson Market. This flange sign is typical of those in use in the 1930s,



when the tiny west-side storefront opened as Schneeberg Grocery.

Inadvertently, there was a second "spy" for the month of January. A last-minute

layout change switched the position of the Back Page and an ad for the Observer's *Guest Guide*—with the result that the issue's table of contents misdirected many entrants to the ad on p. 99 instead. Of our fifteen entrants, seven identified the scene shown on the cover of the *Guest Guide*—the gateway flower garden at Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Eight correctly identified the Jefferson Market, including Wanda Pilkinton of Brighton, who gave the Jeff a plug as "the best stocking stuffer store in Ann Arbor."

The winner of our random drawing is Julie Carroll of Ann Arbor. We're sending her a copy of Jonathan L. Marwil's *History of Ann Arbor*.

FAKE AD

by Jay Forstner

We received 168 correct entries to the January Fake Ad contest, including a refreshingly high number from children. At first, that seemed surprising, but then we remembered the recent school holiday break and our own children's repeated question, "What can we do now?" It's not hard to imagine a few parents tossing their kids an Observer and saying, "See all these ads? Guess which one is fake!" Hours of entertainment.

Hannah Kehoe was one of the clever souls (wait for it) who spotted the Fake Ad for Boom's Shoes on p. 88 of the January issue. "The fact that this company started out by telling you what their shoes could not do was a giveaway," Kehoe wrote. "What kind of company would try to give their product's inabilities first-hand?"

"The phone number turned out to be some kind of hotline for advanced cinema tickets. . . . Oops! *Arborweb* turned up under the phone number—'. . . in Ann Arbor, we bet we even have your size.'

"I think that I would have seen at least one of the 'five locations in Ann Arbor' after eleven years of living here, too!"

Ann Arborite Mark Meier's entry was drawn as our winner. Meier is taking his gift certificate to the Earle restaurant. "Who would wear shoes while lounging? Not me!" he wrote.

To enter the contest for February, identify the Fake Ad by name and page number—remembering that *arborweb*, the name of the Observer's website, is in it someplace—and let us know at the address below. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue.

Relax!
These boots aren't made for hiking.
They're not made for climbing.
They're not made for snowshoeing.
They're not made for ice skating.
They're not made for walking.
These boots are "relaxation" boots.
They're made for "lounging" around.
And we've got 'em in three colors and sizes.
They're the only boots you'll ever need.
They're the only boots you'll ever want.
Boom's Shoes
973-8380
With five locations in Ann Arbor, we bet we even have your size.

Send separate entries to Fake Ad or I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Fax: (734) 769-4950. E-mail: penny@aaobserver.com. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received in the Observer office by noon on Tuesday, February 10, will be eligible for the February drawings.

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Ask about
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club and save
over \$500

...WINTER CAR CARE SPECIAL...

\$24.95* Oil Change

Receive a free 50 point safety inspection during the month of February (\$44.95 value). Don't trust your vehicle to those other guys. There really is a difference. Our oil changes are performed by Master Technicians & include a 25 pt safety inspection. Come see why we're Ann Arbor's Choice since 1982!

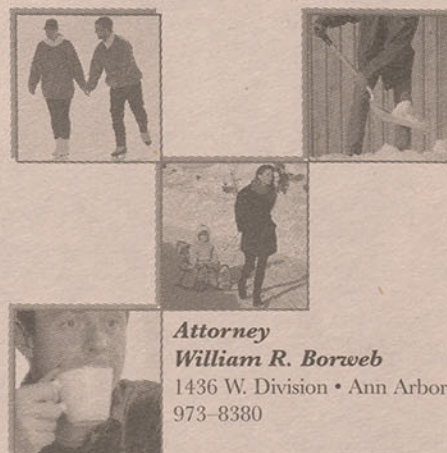
*Expires 2/29/04, Regular Price \$35.95 PLUS TAX & ENVIRONMENTAL FEES
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Winter can be a dangerous time.
Ice-slicked streets. Snowy sidewalks.
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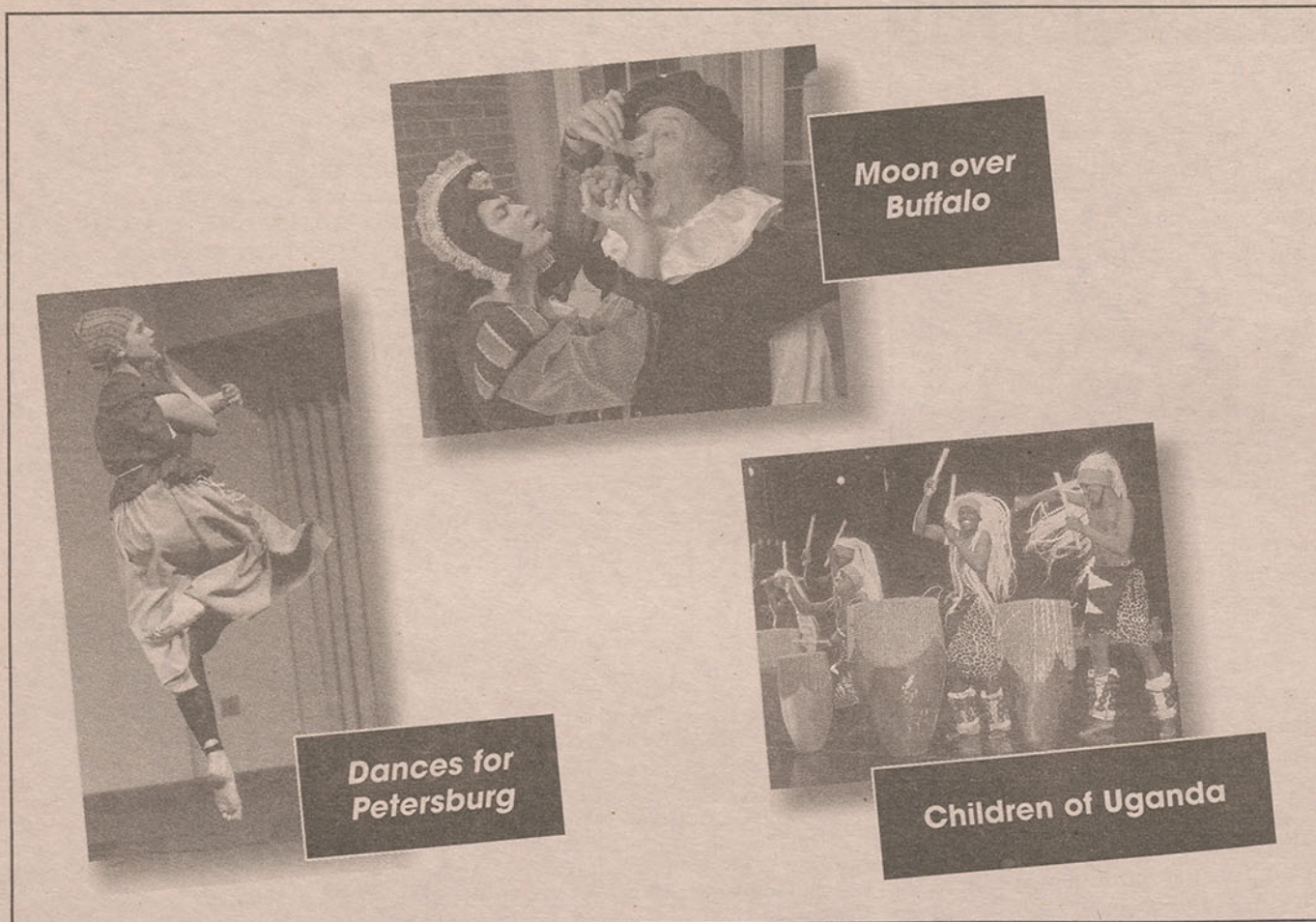
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EVENTS AT A GLANCE



A capsule guide to selected major events in February. See p. 47 for a complete listing of this month's Gallery, Band, and Events reviews. Daily events listings also begin on p. 47.

Classical & Religious Music

- Academy of Early Music, Feb. 6
- Kerrytown Concert House Cabaret, Feb. 6
- Kerrytown Concert House Brahms Gala, Feb. 8
- U-M Michigan Chamber Players, Feb. 8
- Ruth Cunningham & Ana Hernandez sacred music duo, Feb. 8
- Violinist Hilary Hahn, Feb. 12
- The Muse String Quartet, Feb. 13
- Measure for Measure men's chorus, Feb. 14
- Soprano Norma Gentile, Feb. 14
- Canadian Brass, Feb. 14
- Pianist Dady Mehta, Feb. 15
- Xantippe Baroque trio, Feb. 15
- Mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli, Feb. 20
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Feb. 21
- Chamber Music Ann Arbor, Feb. 22
- Michigan Chamber Brass, Feb. 27

Comedy & Performance Art

- *The Snow Queen in Seven Stories* (Dreamland Theater) marionette show, Feb. 1 & 6-8
- Ann Arbor Poetry Slam, Feb. 3 & 17
- Comic Milt Abel, Feb. 5-7
- Comic Tracy Smith, Feb. 12-14
- The Ark Storytelling Festival, Feb. 13-15
- Intercollegiate Raas Competition (U-M Indian American Student Association), Feb. 14
- Spoken-word artist Henry Rollins, Feb. 15
- Comic Allyn Ball, Feb. 19-21
- Ann Arbor Wordworks *Poems from the Ann Arbor Underground*, Feb. 20
- Comic Andres Fernandez, Feb. 26-28

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Leaving Iowa* (Purple Rose Theater), every Wed.-Sun.
- *Spike Heels* (Performance Network), every Thurs.-Sun.
- *The Ramayana* (U-M Gamelan Ensemble), Feb. 1
- *Dances for Petersburg* (U-M Dance Company), Feb. 5-8
- *The Miss Firecracker Contest* (U-M Basement Arts), Feb. 5-7
- *Side Man* (Blackbird Theater), Feb. 5-8, 12-15, 19-22, & 26-29
- *A Thousand Clowns* (P.T.D. Productions), Feb. 5-8 & 12-15
- *The Second Death of Priscilla* (Pioneer Theater Guild), Feb. 6 & 7
- *Bye, Bye, Birdie* (Burns Park Players), Feb. 6, 7, & 12-14
- *Anything Goes* (Huron Players), Feb. 6-8
- *Shapeshifting: A Dance and Rhythm Jam* (Nightfire), Feb. 7
- *Moon over Buffalo* (Friends of the Michigan League), Feb. 12-15
- *Madness in Valencia* (U-M Basement Arts), Feb. 12-14
- *The Quick-Change Room* (U-M Theater Department), Feb. 12-15
- *Brighton Beach Memoirs* (EMU Theater Department), Feb. 13-15 & 19-21
- *Quickening* (Grasshopper Productions eurhythmy troupe), Feb. 17
- *Dead and Deader* (Chelsea Area Players), Feb. 19-21
- *The Lonesome West* (U-M Basement Arts), Feb. 19-21
- *The Lady's Not for Burning* (Concordia University), Feb. 19-22
- *Proof* (Phoenix Theater Project), Feb. 19-22 & 26-29

Ethnic & Traditional Music

- Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic (folk), Feb. 6
- Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Festival, Feb. 10
- Kate & Anna McGarrigle (folk), Feb. 11
- Martin Hayes & Dennis Cahill (Irish), Feb. 12
- Gazsa (Hungarian), Feb. 16
- Children of Uganda (African), Feb. 19 & 21
- April Verch (Canadian fiddle), Feb. 19
- Celtic Fiddle Fest, Feb. 25
- Habib Koite (Malian), Feb. 26
- Sandip Burman (Indian), Feb. 29

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Chelsea American Legion Winter Carnival, Feb. 1
- Washtenaw Community College Mardi Gras, Feb. 7
- Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club Annual Show, Feb. 14 & 15
- Spinners' Flock Winter Fleece Fair, Feb. 14
- WEMU Mardi Gras, Feb. 20
- Dawn Dance Weekend, Feb. 27-29

Conferences & Forums

- U-M Tanner Lecture & Symposium on Human Values, Feb. 6

Lectures & Readings

- Poet John Burnside, Feb. 2
- Neurologist Alice Flaherty, Feb. 2
- Novelist Max Barry, Feb. 3
- Novelist Michael Byers, Feb. 5
- Fiction writer Stuart Dybek, Feb. 5
- Novelist Francesca Delbanco, Feb. 12
- Novelist Karel Glastra van Loon, Feb. 17
- Novelist Paul Toth, Feb. 18

Standout music, dance, and theater picks this month include the Children of Uganda drum and dance troupe February 19 and 21, *Dances for Petersburg* by U-M dancers February 5, and a production of *Moon over Buffalo* by the Friends of the Michigan League February 12-15.

Pop, Rock, Blues, & Jazz

- Rachael Davis (singer-songwriter), Feb. 5
- Zoe Speaks (folkie singer-songwriters), Feb. 6
- The Big Wu (funk-rock), Feb. 6
- Thread Quintet and Trio Yo Dude (jazz), Feb. 7
- Ann Doyle (singer-songwriter), Feb. 7
- Neil Woodward (singer-songwriter), Feb. 8
- Seth Bernard (singer-songwriter), Feb. 9
- Benvenuto & Russo (jazz-funk), Feb. 12
- The Sights (rock 'n' roll), Feb. 13
- Mr. B (boogie-woogie), Feb. 14
- Count Basie Orchestra (jazz), Feb. 14
- Robert Jones (blues), Feb. 15
- Pat McGee Band (acoustic rock), Feb. 15
- Rufus Wainwright (singer-songwriter), Feb. 17
- Annie Gallup (singer-songwriter), Feb. 17
- Dave Rempis Tim Daisy Duo (jazz), Feb. 19
- Larry Fuller Trio (jazz), Feb. 20
- Mustard's Retreat (singer-songwriter duo), Feb. 20
- The Juggernaut Jug Band (jazz & blues), Feb. 20
- Jo Serrapere & the Willie Duns (folk-rock), Feb. 21
- David Wilcox (singer-songwriter), Feb. 22
- Dead Cat Bounce (jazz), Feb. 22
- Peter Case (folk-rock singer-songwriter), Feb. 23
- Doria Roberts & Jez Lowe (singer-songwriters), Feb. 24
- Robert Randolph & the Family Band (gospel-rock), Feb. 28
- Deb Mantel (Christian singer-songwriter), Feb. 28
- Dada (pop-rock), Feb. 29

Films

- Sing-along screening of *The Wizard of Oz*, Feb. 1

Family & Kids' Stuff

- Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra children's concert, Feb. 1
- Historical reenactor Michael Deren on "Michigan's Lumbering Past," Feb. 7
- *The Spirit of Harriet Tubman* (Wild Swan Theater), Feb. 9-15
- The Ark Storytelling Festival children's concert, Feb. 15
- *Drum Me a Story* (Wild Swan Theater), Feb. 18 & 19
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra family concert with Gemini, Feb. 22
- *Mike Mulligan & His Steam Shovel* (Michigan Theater Foundation), Feb. 29

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- Ann Arbor District Library "Anti-Valentine Program for Teens," Feb. 14

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